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TODAY IN Arab news

Petromin to sell oil
The Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources stresses in a statement that it is the sole party authorized to speak on the Kingdom's oil issues and has entrusted Petromin with marketing the country's oil. — Page 2

Guatemala poll laws
Guatemala's President Efrain Rios Montt signs three election laws after lifting a state of siege, but without indication of when general elections might be held. — Page 4

Islam in perspective
Today's commentary is on man's nobility which consists in being free, worshiping no fellow creatures and maintaining one's freedom in the face of tyranny. Our Dialogue answers questions on Shia and wearing of gold by men. — Page 7

Nicaragua fighting
Heavy fighting between Nicaraguan government troops and rightist exiles continues. Honduras says it verged on war with its neighbor as the Security Council begins debate on Nicaraguan charges. — Page 12

Kohl still faces row over policies

BONN, March 24 (R) — Christian Democrat (CDU) West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl faces further policy disputes in his three-party coalition despite agreement on a joint government program, political commentators said Thursday.

The CDU and its Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU), set the seal on seven days of tense coalition talks late Wednesday night by adopting a package of public spending cuts and measures to combat unemployment.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Free Democrats (FDP) had announced approval earlier after a separate meeting of their 34 parliamentary deputies.

The new parliament, elected on March 6, meets for the first time next Tuesday. His cabinet is expected to be sworn in the following day.

But Kohl's authority, boosted by his convincing election victory, could yet be tested by deep-seated differences between the liberals and Franz-Josef Strauss's right-wing CSU over foreign policy.

The Nuernberger *Nachrichten* newspaper summed up the view of many analysts in saying the coalition partners had "turned a blind eye" to key questions, including relations with Moscow and East Berlin.

Kohl is scheduled to meet CSU and FDP leaders again to thrash out foreign policy issues before his May 4 keynote speech to the Bundestag (lower house). Strauss said in Munich Wednesday he would continue to press CSU policies in Bonn despite his recent decision not to accept a cabinet post. The Bavarian premier seeks major foreign policy changes that conflict with Genscher's course over the last nine years. He recently presented a 27-page foreign policy document to his coalition partners proposing a tougher line against Moscow and support for South Africa and other right-wing governments.

Gromyko moves up in hierarchy

MOSCOW, March 24 (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko was Thursday named first deputy prime minister by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the official news agency Tass reported.

Gromyko, 73, becomes the third first deputy to Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov. The others are Getr Aliyev, 59, and Ivan Arkhipov, 75, though the latter is not a member of the ruling Communist Party Politburo.

Aliyev's appointment as first deputy prime minister last Nov. 24 came as a surprise only two days after he was named as a full member of the Politburo and caused speculation that he was being groomed to succeed Tikhonov.

The appointment of Gromyko is a further promotion for the man who has been foreign minister since 1957 and has come to symbolize Soviet foreign policy to the rest of the world. He has been a Politburo member since 1973.

Gromyko's advanced age makes it less likely that his appointment is a preparation to take over from Prime Minister Tikhonov, who at 76 is only three years older.

The appointment to the first deputy premiership seems intended merely as a mark of recognition of Gromyko's long and distinguished career. The move is effectively a

Beirut sets 2-week limit for accord on pullout

BEIRUT, March 24 (Agencies) — Prime Minister Shafiq Wazzan says there will be no new concessions in talks with Israel on troop withdrawals and Lebanon demands an agreement within two weeks, according to published reports.

"The Lebanese position has reached the edge. Lebanon has given all it could give and still maintains its sovereignty and dignity," Wazzan was quoted as saying by the independent *An-Nahar* newspaper Thursday.

An-Nahar and other newspapers also quoted a "responsible" Lebanese source as saying late Wednesday night that the government of President Amin Gemayel had set a time limit of two more weeks for negotiations to reach agreement with Israel on withdrawing its invasion forces from the country.

"The American proposals do not need more discussion. Either there will be an agreement, or Lebanon has to think of other alternatives," the source was quoted as saying. "This time limit is sufficient. Otherwise we are being deceived."

The source said new American proposals brought by U.S. envoy Philip Habib had been "answered by new negative proposals" from Israel that Lebanon had to reject.

The source did not say exactly what "other alternatives" Lebanon would consider if an agreement was not reached in two weeks, according to the reports, but indicated it "would remain within the American proposals."

The source said Lebanon would use all its influence and international ties to secure the withdrawal of foreign forces. "In doing so, it would not confine itself to fruitless negotiations, especially since the talks have exhausted all the subjects on the agenda and Lebanon cannot give anything more than it has already given," the source was quoted as saying.

The new U.S. plan has not been released, but reportedly involves security arrangements in South Lebanon to guard Israel without the involvement of Israeli troops. The plan may involve the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon, made up of U.S., French, British and Italian troops.

The American proposals also reportedly involve an informal agreement to keep the border between Israel and Lebanon open to some degree, but without a formal treaty between the two nations.

Pullout talks have hit problems over the future status of Israeli-backed militia chief Saad Haddad, an Israeli cabinet source said Thursday.

Optimism after Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir visited Washington last week has proved premature, the source said. "Some of the understandings we reached with the U.S. during that trip appear to have dissolved somewhere in transit," the source added.

The source indicated that Israeli willingness to drop a demand for five Israeli-manned military outposts in South Lebanon was conditional on Haddad and his forces being absorbed into the Lebanese Army.

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The informants agreed that Andropov had been hospitalized and one source said he was still there Thursday. None of the reports could be officially confirmed. The state media have not mentioned that Andropov was sick. The sources said the health problems were not life-threatening and that the 68-year-old Andropov would be returning to work soon.

U.N. Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar was expected in Moscow Sunday. A clearer indication of the state of Andropov's health would be apparent if he goes ahead with a meeting with the U.N. leader, who is to leave Tuesday.

One source said Andropov's kidney ailment was chronic but that he also began suffering heart problems about two weeks ago. At this point doctors recommended he be hospitalized in Moscow for treatment and to rest.

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Ministry disclaims brokers, agents**Petromin to market oil**

RIYADH, March 24 (SPA) — The Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ministry has stressed that it was the sole party authorized to speak on behalf of the Kingdom on oil issues and had entrusted Petromin with marketing the country's oil. A ministry statement issued here Wednesday said that according to the government's oil policy no brokers or agents were allowed to market the King-

dom's oil.

It warned against falling in the trap of those who claimed to represent the Kingdom and to be in a position to sell Saudi oil.

Full responsibility lies with anyone dealing with such pretenders and the Saudi Arabian government has nothing to do with the matter, the statement said.

Solar energy to provide home power

DAMMAM, March 24 (SPA) — Studies are under way by the College of Architecture and Planning, in collaboration with the Saudi Arabian National Center for Sciences and Technology to make use of solar energy for domestic purposes, it was announced here.

The college's Deputy Dean Ghazi Al-Oteibi said the studies would help turn solar energy into electricity for household use.

SAS plans special medical tours

By Suresh Shah
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 24 — Special tours featuring individual medical checkups and preventive medicine will begin April 1 when Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) begins its "Scandinavian Wellcare" services.

Comprehensive medical examinations by a team of Swedish specialists at Stockholm's Sophiahemmet, a private hospital founded by a former queen of Sweden, is included in the service. The program also calls for medical consultants to diagnose, offer follow-up treatments, therapy and individual advice in

preventive medicine and the promotion of good health.

According to a SAS spokesman, the Wellcare flights include trips to and from Stockholm, a week's stay at the City Park Hotel, a luxury hotel close to the hospital and free time to enjoy sights and shopping. After initial extensive examinations and testing, the guest, who lives at the hotel, may also use the resources of Swedish university hospitals and other specialists.

SAS has organized the program jointly with International Medical Hospital Services (Intermed) and Wellcare Medical Services (WMS).

U.S.media expert visiting Kingdom

By Ahmed M. Hassan

JEDDAH, March 24 — Dr. Stanley Smith, an American professor for press and media at Arizona University who is currently on a visit to the Kingdom, has recognized and defined the difficulties and shortcomings in the United States media coverage of the Middle East. Ways of finding a solution to the problem were discussed at various meetings he held here. He proposed further research and periodic reviews to examine the effectiveness of any possible solution.

Smith conferred here with Dr. Abdul Wahab Bagdadi, head of the Information Department at the King Abdul Aziz University Faculty of Art and delivered lectures on international communication and the Middle East media coverage.

He leaves for Riyadh Saturday to undertake similar meetings with the university dean and professors on March 29. He will leave for Dharan on April 3 and thereafter returns home.

Smith taught international communication and press for seven years at the Michigan State University and for six years at the Arizona State University. He also organized and directed international communication seminars in Yugoslavia between 1970 and 1972 with international participants and media experts from 18 nations.

Such seminars have gone a long way in providing opportunities to young journalists to get acquainted with various press systems and practices and examine how they are applied in specific social, economic and political circumstances.

In 1972, he founded an association for international communication seminars with its headquarters in Zurich with a view to dealing with the problem of communication between the countries operating under the philosophy that any improvement in international communication can be achieved only by increasing knowledge and understanding of foreign cultures and conditions.

Report denied
RIYADH (SPA) — Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba Al-Khai has denied a report published by a Kuwaiti magazine claiming that a consortium of Saudi and Kuwaiti banks had granted a loan to a Jewish company, Montana. The minister said in a statement that following investigations it was established that the report, by *Al-Risalah* magazine, was unfounded.

Talal donates SR100,000

ABHA — Prince Talal ibn Abdul Aziz, the special envoy of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and head of the Arab Gulf Fund, has donated SR100,000 annually to the Abha Women Philanthropic Foundation, *Al-Naswa* reported.

BRIEFS**French delegation**

RIYADH (SPA) — Crown Prince Abdullah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard received here Wednesday a French delegation led by Andre Billon, the ruling party's deputy chairman for foreign affairs at the National Assembly and head of the French-Saudi Arabian Friendship Group. The delegation is currently on a visit to Saudi Arabia. Later, the delegation conferred with Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdou Yamani.

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Checking speed limits

MAKKAH (SPA) — The Makkah Traffic Department has started the use of a special radar system to check on cars exceeding the speed limits, it was officially announced here Thursday. The announcement said the new system was fixed in traffic patrol cars on highways and that it was efficient in apprehending speed violators.

Medical drug banned

RIYADH (SPA) — The Health Ministry has cautioned travelers coming to the Kingdom against bringing with them the medical drug Zomax, known scientifically by the name Zomibac, because of its ill-effects. The ministry noted that the drug, used in treating rheumatism, was unavailable locally. There have been reports recently about withdrawing the drug from world markets after harmful side effects were detected.

New Education system

JEDDAH (SPA) — The Education Ministry has endorsed a new system for secondary education after its ratification by the Higher Committee on Education Policy, the Western Region's director general of education, Dr. Abdullah Al-Zaid, said. Dr. Zaid said the new system would come into effect in the next academic year and would be implemented over a four-year period.

Saudi-Tunisian ties

TUNIS (SPA) — Saudi Arabian Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Masoud has praised relations with Tunisia, describing them as excellent. Speaking after a meeting with Tunisian Premier Muhammad M'zali, Masoud said cooperation between the two sisterly Arab states was proceeding well. He added that the recently concluded brotherhood agreement between Algeria and Tunisia was a great achievement.

Somali ambassador praises Kingdom's aid to Arab world

By A Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 24 — The Kingdom's role in extending support to sisterly countries has been praised in a statement here by Somali Ambassador Abdulla Haji Ibrahim. He told *Okez* that Somalia is looking forward to much more assistance at all levels, saying that the Kingdom represents the major source of consolidation and support in the Arab world.

During meetings with King Fahd, the crown prince and senior government officials, Ibrahim said he felt true sisterly sentiments toward Somalia, underscoring the importance of the role being played by the Kingdom.

The circumstances arising from the continuation of the war of attrition with

Fateh celebrates Day of the Land

AL-IHSA, Saudi Arabia, March 24 (SPA) — The Fateh Palestine commando movement held a rally here Wednesday night commemorating the Day of the Land.

Prince Muhammad ibn Fahd ibn Jilwi, governor of Al-Ihsa Province, in a speech reaffirmed the Kingdom's stand on the Palestine cause, namely supporting the Palestinian people's struggle.

The occasion triggers mass demonstration in occupied territories against Israeli occupation of Arab land.

The meeting was attended by Bahrain Minister for Development and Industry Yousef Ahmad Shirawi and the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Bahrain Abdul-Rahman Al-Qadhi.

Nam, who has been with the Ministry of Culture and Information for the last 15 years, said that his first foreign assignment and his hope of presenting the importance of his country, predominantly an agricultural one, now making tremendous industrial progress here.

Nam succeeds Hyun Woong Shin who has returned home at the termination of his assignment here.

National University, said cultural exchange will go a long way in promoting mutual friendship between the two countries.

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Ugandan Muslims get 60,000 Qur'ans

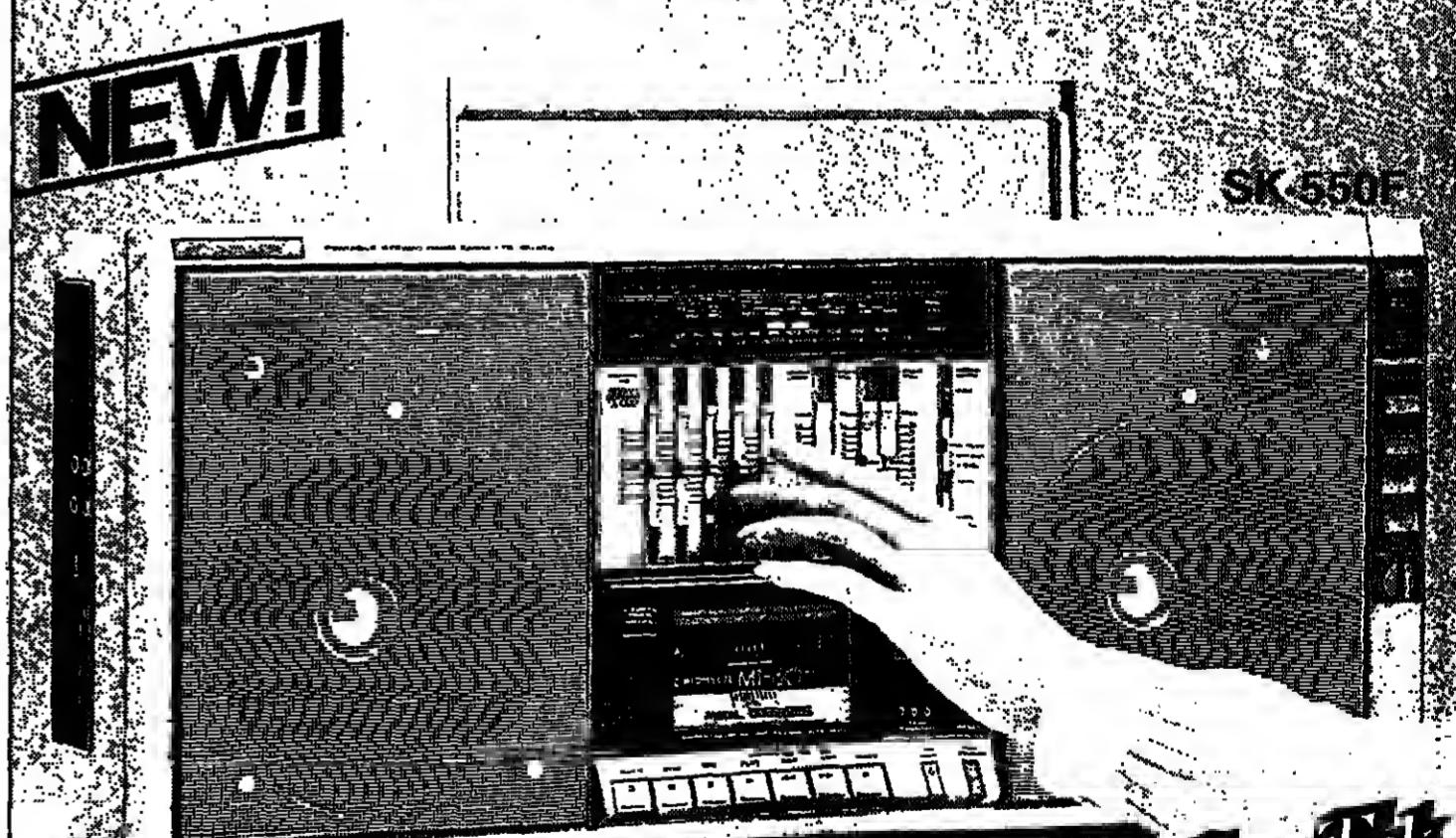
NAIROBI, March 24 (AP) — Sixty thousand copies of the Holy Quran have arrived in Uganda by air from Saudi Arabia, Radio Uganda reported Thursday. The state-owned radio said in a broadcast monitored here that it was the first consignment of a total 300,000 copies of the Quran donated

The radio said the holy books were received at Entebbe Airport by Sheikh Abdul Razak Matova, chief cadi, or leader, of Uganda's million Muslims.

Prayer Times

Friday	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	4:56	4:56	4:28	4:14	4:39	5:08
Dbuh (Noon)	12:27	12:28	11:59	11:46	12:11	12:40
Assr (Afternoon)	3:52	3:55	3:26	3:14	3:38	4:09
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:34	6:36	6:07	5:54	6:18	6:48
Isha (Night)	8:04	8:06	7:37	7:24	7:48	8:18

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مكتبة الراحل

Arafat calls for close Arab, African ties

TUNIS, March 24 (AFP) — Yasser Arafat, the chairman of Palestine Liberation Organization, has called for direct aid between Arab and African states.

Addressing the closing session of the Permanent Commission for Arab-African Cooperation here Wednesday, the Palestinian leader warned: "Without economic cooperation there will be no political cooperation and we shall all lose by that."

"We talk a lot, but people need to eat," he said. African and Arab countries, despite often rich soil, imported heavily and could not even feed their children. If Europe had managed to band together economically in the European Common Market, others could do it, Arafat said. But so far most of the resolutions of the 1977 Arab-African summit in Cairo had remained a dead letter.

The Palestinian leader attacked the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which he said was "keeping us in chains." Calling for close economic cooperation between Arab and African states, he said we are all prisoners of IMF, international banks and world imperialism. Transnational companies tell us what to do, our resources are mapped off by foreign countries and our economies perish." Some African countries were crushed by having to pay up to 20 percent interest on loans to foreign banks, he said.

"We must recover our own resources," he urged. "It is no longer a matter of North-South dialogue, but of hunger. We are 62 members of the United Nations — two-thirds of the nonaligned bloc. Can we do nothing?" he asked his audience.

Arafat reproached African states which accepted aid from Israel and wanted to renew diplomatic ties with it. "All Israeli aid, whatever form it takes, hurts the Third World," he

Japan woos PLO

TOKYO, March 24 (AFP) — In a move interpreted by diplomats here as a bid by the Japan to strengthen its ties with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the government has invited the chief of the PLO's Tokyo office to a party marking Emperor Hirohito's birthday, Foreign Ministry sources said.

said, exhorting Africans to prevent Israel from regaining a foothold in the continent.

With the secretary-generals of the Arab League and the Organization of African Unity, Chedli Klibi and Edem Kodjo, listening, he called for an urgent and genuine joint development plan — "straightforward, clear, scientific and without slogans. The longer we wait, the tighter the vice will become," he warned.

Thousands fleeing Ethiopian drought, war-stricken areas Sudan unable to cope with mass influx

GEDAREF, Sudan, March 24 (WP) — Hundreds of half-starved peasants from drought-stricken regions of northern Ethiopia have begun crossing into Sudan in what some relief officials fear may be the start of an exodus involving tens of thousands.

The Ethiopian government and two opposition groups fighting the provinces of Eritrea and Tigray say that the situation is "extremely serious," probably the most severe since a 1973-74 drought in the areas led to the death of an estimated 200,000 people.

Mark Bowden, an official of the British Save the Children Fund who recently completed a visit to Ethiopia, has warned that there is a "real risk" of famine for 3.5 million people living in the affected areas and that "tens of thousands of lives" are at stake.

Another outside witness, a sociology professor from Britain's Durham University who just spent three months in Tigray, gave a similar account. In a public report, Jon Bennett said he had seen "many hundreds moving westward" inside Tigray, "carrying only a few household possessions on their backs."

He said about 250 families per day were migrating from the most affected areas in the northeast and south toward the west, where there is still some food. Some 2,000 peasants

had crossed into Sudan, he said. Sudanese officials, already coping with 440,000 Ethiopian refugees and 170,000 Ugandans in the south, said they will not be able to deal with a large new influx of Ethiopians.

The Ethiopian government, the Tigray People's Liberation Front opposition group and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front are appealing for international assistance to stop an exodus into Sudan. But they disagree on how such aid should be distributed, with the opposition groups claiming that they control most of the areas where the drought-afflicted population lives and therefore it should go through them.

During the great drought of 1973-74, international relief agencies failed to respond because the late Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie tried to cover up the disaster and barred access to the starving peasants. Today, only the Save the Children Fund appears to be mobilizing to help. One Washington-based group, the International Rescue Committee, has been winding down its activities here.

A spokesman for the State Department-supported committee, Joo Eklund, said in Washington that as a result of the reports from the drought area, "we are going to do our best" in Sudan. He said seven staff members are providing medical, sanitation and educational aid at four refugee camps.

The United Nations has not surveyed the likelihood of an influx of famine victims. Yet a U.N. High Commission for Refugees mission that visited here in November concluded that a contingency plan for emergency aid

was needed "due to the uncertainty of the general situation."

The U.N. commission's representative in Khartoum, Robert Muller, said, "everybody knows there is a problem in Ethiopia. Whether they (the refugees) will move or not move is a different problem." Muller said he was "certain" that the situation was worse than in the past two years.

Muller also said drought victims were not the concern of his office, because they were not classified officially as "refugees." The United Nations has a special disaster relief agency that deals with such emergencies, he said.

The U.N. commission's representative here, Peter Parr, seemed to agree with Muller that reports of a probable mass influx into Sudan were speculative. On the basis of information available, he said, "I would not say there is a terrible drought, certainly not enough to generate tens of thousands coming over. But it's worthwhile being prepared."

The U.N. High Commission for Refugees, for reasons that have nothing to do with the current drought in Ethiopia, is opening a center 40 miles northeast of here at Showat capable of receiving 5,000 refugees.

The U.N. agency's count of registered Ethiopian refugees shows a big jump to a monthly average of 300 to 400 starting last April, apparently because of bad weather and fighting in Tigray province near Eritrea.

The start of an Ethiopian Army offensive to crush the Tigray People's Liberation Front is likely to aggravate the situation. The army is expected to try to seize the freedom fighters' food supplies in the better-off western

part of Tigray. If it succeeds, the numbers fleeing into Sudan seem certain to increase.

Ismael Ibrahim, the Sudanese assistant commissioner for refugees, said in an interview here that he thought the situation was "not as serious as the drought of 1973." But he added that "it's getting worse and worse as the food supply in Western Tigray goes."

He said the Relief Society of Tigray, a group associated with the Tigray fighters, is trucking 400 tons of food into the province monthly to aid drought victims and trying to keep them from streaming into Sudan for help.

If this fails, he said, "thousands and thousands" of peasants would come across seeking assistance. "I don't think we have the capacity to cope with that." He said Sudanese grain stocks were low this year because of a poor harvest around Gedaref, which is the country's main agricultural center.

Ibrahim said 30 to 50 Ethiopians were arriving daily at his office seeking help and that 60 to 100 were drifting into Gedaref, while others were waiting at the border.

Roughly 50 persons, mostly single men, could be seen waiting outside his office the day two U.S. reporters visited last month.

At Tawawa, a settlement outside Gedaref for Ethiopian refugees, a newly arrived Ethiopian, Gehre Amlak, 38, said he had walked for one month from his village near Makele, the Tigrayan provincial capital. He said he was seeking work and food in Sudan while his family was still at home.

He said that he and nine other men had traveled mostly by night because of the fighting in Tigray.

N. African unity seen within reach

TUNIS, March 24 (AFP) — North African unity is "within reach" and a summit meeting between Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria should be held as soon as possible, Moroccan Premier Maati Bouabid said in Tunisian radio interview broadcast here Wednesday.

He stressed the importance of the Algerian-Tunisian friendship treaty signed during the recent visit to Tunis of Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and the earlier meeting between President Chadli and Moroccan King Hassan II in Rabat.

The creation of a greater Maghreb (North Africa) was "hardly difficult," he said, but counseled caution and the building of unity by stages.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi conferred in Fez Wednesday with King Hassan and reported to him on Chadli's visit to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba.

Riot-torn Karachi returns to normal

KARACHI, March 24 (AP) — Authorities said the situation returned to normalcy in Karachi following five days of bloody riots between the rival sectarians that left at least 10 persons dead and more than 100 wounded.

An official statement said curfew restrictions imposed on the Karachi district of Liquatabad were relaxed twice for seven hours here more than 500,000 people. The statement said "oo untoward incident" took place Wednesday.

City authorities imposed a curfew there last Friday in an attempt to quell the riots and sporadic shootouts, which also damaged private and public buildings.

The riots broke out in Liaquatabad last Friday when gun shots were reportedly fired on Sunnisites in an area where several hundred people had gathered for Friday prayers.

EEC stand hailed

ABU DHABI, March 24 (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Thursday welcomed a statement on the Middle East by West European leaders criticizing Israel's settlement policy.

The statement indicates some progress which serves peace in the Middle East and strengthens ties between European countries and the Arab world," the official Emirates News Agency quoted Foreign Ministry undersecretary Abdul Rahman Jarwan as saying.

BRIEFS

PARIS (R) — Spanish Vice-Premier Alfonso Guerra was received Thursday by Algerian President Chadli Bejioged on the third day of an official visit to Algeria, the Algerian news agency Aps monitored in Paris said.

ISTANBUL (AFP) — Six persons died in a clash here on Wednesday night between security forces and extreme left wing militants, three of them policemen and three alleged terrorists, an informed source said Thursday.

ISTANBUL (R) — Four Turkish fishermen were killed and three seriously hurt when they tried to dismantle a World War I torpedo they caught in their nets in the Bosphorus Wednesday, police said. The torpedo fuse exploded after the men brought it ashore, police said, adding that it would have been far worse if the main charge of hundreds of kilograms of TNT had exploded.

TEL AVIV (R) — Hundreds of Muslim religious leaders in the southern Lebanese town of Nabatiyeh demonstrated Thursday against Israel's arrest earlier this week of one of their colleagues, an Israeli source said. Pupils in nearby village schools demonstrated and refused to attend classes.

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded three Lebanese civilians when several hundred demonstrators blocked the coastal road between Tyre and Beirut, military sources said.

LONDON (R) — Iranian government forces killed 30 Kurdish guerrillas near the western town of Bukan Wednesday, Tehran radio reported.

MANAMA (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym conferred here Wednesday with Bahrain's leaders on prospects for an European role in Mideast peacemaking and on current political and economic affairs.

CAIRO (AP) — Canadian Defense Minister Gilles Lamontagne conferred Thursday with his Egyptian counterpart Field Marshal Abdul Hafiz Alu Ghazala on bilateral military cooperation.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We, Kanoo Terminal Services Ltd., Dammam, announce that Philippine passport no. JH14895 (Serial No. C004303) issued on 1st February 1982 by Philippine Embassy, Jeddah, to Mr. Raymundo D. Herrera has been lost. Finder is requested to contact us or inform Dammam Passport Office.

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Poll laws signed in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY, March 24 (AP) — President Efraín Ríos Montt celebrated the first anniversary of the coup that put him in power by signing three election laws on Wednesday and calling on all Guatemalans to participate in "the political opening." "We are all Guatemalans, there is no left and right," he declared.

The laws — providing for voter registration, organization of political parties and establishment of an independent electoral council — laid the groundwork for election of an independent of a constituent assembly to restore civilian government.

Ríos Montt refused at a news conference to say when the election might be held. But he hinted previously it might be before the end of the year.

Coming to power in a coup "is a very Guatemalan practice," he told the news conference, but if he catches anyone plotting to oust him, he'll "send them off to be shot."

The Christian Democratic Party later called on Ríos Montt to set a date for the elections without delay. A statement from the party said the government should "issue immediately the call to elections as was promised."

The "day of national dignity" began with lifting of the state of siege Ríos Montt imposed July 1. This restored such rights as the holding of public meetings, the inviolability of the mails, freedom from search without a warrant and freedom of information.

However, the president retains sweeping legislative powers, and the secret courts set up under the state of siege, which sent 15 men to death before firing squads, will continue to operate.

A year ago, a group of younger officers decided to end an abusive and corrupt process that during many years maintained an anti-patriotic order," Ríos Montt said after of a three-man military junta which he later disbanded when he named himself singer.

P-2 chief Gelli gets suspended jail sentence

GENEVA, March 24 (R) — Italian industrialist Licio Gelli, who headed the illegal Masonic Lodge "Propaganda 2," was given a suspended two-month prison sentence by a Geneva court Wednesday for entering Switzerland illegally.

Gelli, arrested here last September on an international warrant, was charged with using a false Argentine passport in the name of Marco Bruno Ricci to enter Switzerland. His lawyers did not deny the charge but said Gelli came to Switzerland to seek asylum and was opposing an extradition request made by



WARM WELCOME: Mrs. Hazel Hawke, wife of Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke (right) greets Princess Diana warmly when she and her husband Prince Charles (left) arrived Thursday at the RAAF base in Canberra.

Royal couple meet Hawkes

CANBERRA, Australia, March 24 (AP) — Prince Charles, the future King of England, met Thursday with Prime Minister Bob Hawke, whose Labor Party is committed to ending Australia's links with the British monarchy. It was a warm welcome, in chilly weather.

Prince Charles and his wife, Princess Diana arrived in Canberra, from the ranch in Albany 90 miles away which they have made their headquarters for their month-long tour of Australia.

They were greeted in bitter autumn weather by the governor general, Sir Ninian Stephen, who introduced them to Hawke and his wife Hazel.

Hawke, a former trade union leader, has said he expects Australia to become a republic in his lifetime. Hawke, however, has also said he does not consider a republic to be a priority of his government, which was

elected March 5. "Prince Charles is a nice young bloke," he said during his campaign.

The royal couple arrived in Australia Sunday and toured the outback towns of Tennant Creek and Ayres Rock before flying to Albany to join their nine-month old son Prince William.

They were greeted Wednesday by a 21-gun salute in Canberra and went on to tour the Australian capital and lunch with the Hawkes. They also visited the construction site for Australia's \$250 million new parliament house, where they were again faced with a supporter of an Australian republic.

A construction worker, Stan Spurek, 25, banded a republican flag to the prince as she toured the site. Other building workers walked off the job to protest the visit.

At a civic reception in Canberra, Prince Charles emphasized the ties that bind England and its former colony.

Top 4 discs keep places

NEW YORK, March 24 (AP) — Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" enjoyed a third week Wednesday at the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States.

And it was week No. 3 in second place on the *Cashbox* magazine chart for Culture Club's "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me." Lionel Richie's "You Are" stayed on for a second straight week in third position.

The ten top pop singles, as rated by *Cashbox*, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) Billie Jean — Michael Jackson
2. (2) — Do You Really Want to Hurt Me — Culture Club
3. (3) You Are — Lionel Richie
4. (4) Hungry Like the Wolf — Duran Duran
5. (6) Back on the Chain Gang — Pretenders
6. (5) Stray Cat Strut — Stray Cats
7. (9) One on One — Daryl Hall and John Oates
8. (12) Mr. Robot — Styx
9. (13) Come on Eileen — Dexy's Midnight Runners
10. (11) Separate Ways (Worlds Apart) — Journey

The ten top country-western singles, as rated by *Cashbox*, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (3) Shine On — George Jones
2. (4) Dixieland Delight — Alabama
3. (1) Swingin' — John Anderson
4. (5) When I'm Away From You — The Bellamy Brothers
5. (6) I Have Loved You, Girl — Earl Thomas Conley
6. (8) We've got Tonight — Kenny Rogers and Sheena Easton
7. (9) You Don't Know Love — Janie Fricke
8. (10) Reasons to Quit — Merle Haggard and Willie Nelson
9. (12) My First Taste of Tears — Ed Bruce
10. (11) Hangin' Around — The Whites

In England, Style Council, one of the newest of Britain's new wave outfit, rolled into the top spot of Britain's best-selling singles chart this week with "Speak Like a Child."

They ousted gravel-voiced Welsh Singer Bonnie Tyler's first major hit, "Total Eclipse of the Heart." But Duran Duran, a stylish Scottish band, leapt into the No. 4 spot from nowhere with "Is There Something I Should Know?" and looked a strong contender for No. 1.

This week's top 10 as listed by *Melody Maker* magazine, with last week's placings in brackets:

1. (9) Speak Like a Child — Style Council
2. (1) Total Eclipse of the Heart — Bonnie Tyler
3. (2) Sweet Dreams are Made of This — Eurythmics
4. (—) Is There Something I Should Know? — Duran Duran
5. (3) Rock the Boat — Forrest
6. (4) Billie Jean — Michael Jackson
7. (13) Rip It Up — Orange Juice
8. (—) Let's Dance — David Bowie
9. (5) Na na hey kiss him Goodbye — Bananarama
10. (12) High Life — Modern Romance

France to delay N-tests

PARIS, March 24 (AFP) — France has decided to delay nuclear tests this year on its Pacific Mururoa atoll testing site, the Defense Ministry reported. But Defense Ministry sources did not indicate why or for how long this year's scheduled tests had been postponed. They said the 1983 test program was nevertheless expected to be completed as planned.

Defense Minister Charles Hernu said Wednesday the underground tests had been delayed for a few weeks "for technical and meteorological reasons" and stressed that this in no way affected the government's October 1981 nuclear arms program. "Nuclear armament is a national priority," he said. "The government has not changed its attitude."

The daily *Le Monde* said that the beginning of the 1983 testing program on the atoll, in French Polynesia, was initially scheduled for late last month.

Zimbabwe brands newsman

HARARE, March 24 (AFP) — The Zimbabwe government declared the Harare correspondent of *The Guardian* newspaper, Nick Worrall, "an undesirable person and an enemy of the people" as a result of articles in his paper on brutality by the army and political upheaval in the country.

The statement from Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira did not make clear whether Worrall would be expelled from Zimbabwe because of the three-article series written by another *Guardian* staffer who recently visited Zimbabwe. It said his accreditation was being withdrawn.

It was the first time the Robert Mugabe government had acted against a locally based correspondent in nearly three years of Zimbabwe's independence. Last month, the South Africa-based correspondent of the American magazine *Newsweek*, Holger Jensen, was barred from returning to Zimbabwe after his article in February on army atrocities.

BRIEFS

Howard, who will complete his term of office July 30.

LOBAMBA, Swaziland (AP) — Two days after she dismissed the last prime minister, Swaziland's queen regent named a little-known bureaucrat to the job Wednesday. Prince Bhekimpilo was not even at the meeting here when the country's chiefs met to hear the widow of the late King Sobhuza II announce his appointment. Police and soldiers immediately fanned out looking for the nephew of the king, locating him outside the capital, Mbabane, and informing him of his new assignment.

LONDON (AFP) — Britain's Queen Elizabeth II will pay a state visit to Sweden from May 25 to 28, Buckingham Palace announced Wednesday.

PEKING (AFP) — Chen Xitong, 53, has been elected mayor of this Chinese capital of more than nine million people, with a pledge to pay particular attention to controlling environmental pollution and improving water, electricity and gas supplies, New China News Agency said Thursday.

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Announcement likely tomorrow

Japan may ease import curbs

TOKYO, March 24 (AFP) — The Japanese government will shortly put measures before parliament to make it easier for foreign products to compete on the Japanese market, *The Asahi Shimbun* paper reported Thursday.

The measures, to be announced on Saturday, are intended to modify industrial norms to bring them more into line with international norms, and to change registration procedures for some manufactured goods. In accordance with a decision taken in January by the authorities, some 30 laws have been scrutinized by a special interministerial

committee headed by government spokesman Masaharu Gotoda. The committee concluded that 17 laws should be revised to make it easier for foreign products to enter the Japanese market, the paper said.

All suggestions and complaints raised by Japan's trading partners have been taken into account, the paper said, quoting government sources. The main thrust of the move, backed by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, is to eliminate discrimination against imports from overseas. The proposed changes to the 17 laws will be discussed either separately or as a group, and it is possible that they will be

adopted by the two houses of parliament before the end of the present session on May 26, in which case they would take effect immediately.

However, they would have to be accompanied by administrative decisions and regulations by the five ministries concerned: health, agriculture, international trade and industry, transport and labor. Among the 17 laws due to be amended to avoid legal discrimination are the following: The pharmaceutical affairs law, the agricultural chemicals law, the law concerning standardization and proper labeling of agricultural and forestry products, and the consumer product safety law, the paper said.

The government has also acted on foreign criticism that procedure concerning industrial standards is not clear, and a list of standards and possible changes to them will be published, enabling countries concerned to give their opinion.

Cocoa talks deadlocked

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — A lack of unity among producing nations in the International Cocoa Organization has deadlocked London talks aimed at deciding to negotiate a fresh world cocoa pact, European Common Market sources reported Wednesday.

Confusion also reigns among producers on whether they can fulfill conditions for allowing the buffer stock to utilize a \$75 million Brazilian loan to buy cocoa. This could help siphon off some of the accumulated surplus of 605,000 metric tons of cocoa that is depressing prices. The plan, put forward by the same producers who now are hesitating, calls for buying on a deferred payment scheme to allow the cocoa to be stored in producing countries.

Qualified informants said that some producers have not been able to assume responsibility for the warehousing of the cocoa nor have they been able to work out how much cocoa each producer country will be called on to earmark for buffer stock.

U.K. insurers pay \$290m on plane crashes

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — A record \$290 million was paid out by British insurance companies last year for airliner crashes, the Aviation Insurance Offices Association said in its annual report released Wednesday.

It warned that the total could mount in the coming years. Chairman Ivor Purdue reported that 26 Western-built jets were destroyed in 1982, costing insurance companies about \$240 million. Partial losses accounted for the remainder of last year's payments.

Purdue said the destruction of three wide-bodied jets accounted for \$120 million of the total. "While 1982 has turned out to be an expensive year, it is more typical of the experience we must come to expect rather than the 1981 year which had few losses," the chairman said. The report gave no figures for insurance claims paid to crash victims.

Honor OPEC price, says Jakarta

JAKARTA, March 24 (Agencies) — Indonesian Minister of Mines and Energy Subroto called on members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries Thursday not to undercut the group's new benchmark crude oil price.

Subroto, following a meeting with President Suharto, expressed concern that failure to abide by the agreement will lead to a price war. OPEC members agreed at a recent meeting in London to bring down the price of crude to \$29 per barrel to cope with an international oil glut.

In another development, it was stated in Tokyo that Japan has agreed to buy 8 million tons of crude oil from China in 1983 with a \$5 a barrel price cut for the first three months of the contract. China agreed to lower its oil price by \$3 to \$28.70 for January-March shipments, the importers' conference of Chinese Petroleum said. The agreement was concluded in Peking Wednesday between the China National Chemicals Import and Export Corporation and Japanese importers of Chinese crude oil.

Meanwhile, a continuing siege of oil facilities by angry peasants in the state of Tabasco, Mexico, has led to million-dollar losses and a production cut of 16,000 barrels of crude oil daily, officials of the state Pemex oil monopoly said Wednesday.

Poland expects 16% industrial growth by '85

WARSAW, March 24 (R) — Increased industrial output envisaged in a three-year economic recovery plan being discussed in Poland's parliament now still falls short of the level prior to 1980 when labor and political unrest plunged the country into chaos.

Planners, encouraged by an upward trend that appeared at the turn of the year, say they expect production in industry to be about 14 to 16 percent above the present levels by 1985. But output of most fuels, such as hard coal and natural gas, and industrial raw materials, including zinc, lead and aluminum, will lag below 1980 figures.

Exceptions are copper, expected to amount to 385,000 tons, compared with 357,300 tons in 1988, electrical energy estimated at 131 billion kilowatt-hours against 121.9 billion kilowatt-hours, and brown coal at 53 million tons instead of 36.9 million tons in 1980. The figures appeared in a summarized version of part of the plan published by a Warsaw economic weekly, *Zycie Gospodarcze*.

Given good weather, the planners expect crop harvests in 1985 to be around eight percent higher than in 1982, and 23 to 24 percent above the disastrous 1980 yields, stricken by heavy rains and floods. Animal pro-

U.S. subsidy on food sales will continue

LONDON, March 24 (R) — The United States does not rule out the use of further subsidized food sales as a means of competing with European Economic Community export subsidies, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block said Thursday.

But he said America did not plan to move aggressively in arranging deals like a subsidized sale of flour to Egypt now under way. In January, the United States announced the sale of a million tons of wheat flour to Egypt over a one-year period starting this month, at \$15 a ton. The European Commission said the price was \$25 to \$30 a ton below the world market price. "We keep that option open," Block said. "It's merely our way of competing with European Community subsidies."

Speaking at the end of a conference in London organized by *The Financial Times* and the International Wheat Council, and before his departure on a ten-day Middle East tour, Block said he would not be negotiating a similar dairy deal with Egypt on his present trip, but did not rule out any such deals in future.

Block said U.S. policy would dramatically reduce world grain stocks over the coming year, and it was now up to the European Community to play its part. Under its payment-in-kind program, the United States aims to cut grain production by giving surplus government-owned grain to farmers in return for leaving much of their land fallow.

Block said he hoped the European Community would consider increasing its stocking of grains to keep surpluses off the market.

"We have reached the point in international trade where one grain exporting country puts grain into the export market at less than half the price received by its producers," he said without elaboration. The agriculture secretary said Wednesday that the United States may discuss world grain trade with all major exporters in the next month or so, including the European Community.

Portugal hikes bank rate by 4%

LISBON, March 24 (R) — Portugal Wednesday raised its bank rate by four percent and speeded up the monthly devaluation of the escudo in an effort to shore up the economy.

A Bank of Portugal statement said it was devaluing the escudo by an average of two percent following the latest realignment within the European Monetary System (EMS) and increasing the currency's monthly depreciation to one percent from its previous level of 0.75 percent. The escudo fell by 3.7 percent against the U.S. dollar when the Lisbon foreign exchange market reopened Wednesday after a two-day closure. The Central Bank fixed the escudo at 97.133 to the dollar against 93.547 last Friday.

The Central Bank had for months been publicly advocating a rise in domestic interest rates and a speeding up of the monthly devaluation, but the measures had been put off for political reasons in view of the forthcoming April 25 general elections.

Finance Minister Joao Salgueiro said earlier this year that these were measures a caretaker government could not take, but the Central Bank's view prevailed after the EMS realignment.

Soviets boost trade surplus with developing countries

MOSCOW, March 24 (R) — The Soviet Union improved its trade position last year by slashing its deficit with the West and Japan and quadrupling its surplus with the developing countries, according to provisional figures released Wednesday.

The Soviet trade deficit with the developed industrial world was cut approximately 80 percent, falling to \$137 million in 1982 from \$1,235 million in 1981, figures published in the weekly *Ekonomiceskaya Gazeta* showed.

Exports to the Third World rose to \$13.9 billion from \$11.9 billion in 1981 and imports fell from \$10.7 billion to \$9.17 billion. Western experts said the boost in the trade surplus with the developing countries was largely owing to a cut in grain purchases from Argentina, which have to be paid for in hard currency.

A slightly better harvest than expected and Comecon external debts total \$74b

VIENNA, March 24 (AFP) — External debts owed by members of the mainly East European Comecon trading bloc have fallen for the first time in 10 years to a total of \$74.3 billion at the end of 1982, the International Institute of Economic Comparative Studies has calculated here.

This compared with total debts of \$77.1 billion at the end of 1981. The report said Comecon countries had gained particularly from the strengthening of the dollar and a slight improvement in their trade balance with the West.

The Soviet Union did particularly well, reducing its debts to \$9 billion against \$12.5 billion in 1981, mainly following the sale of between 150 and 200 tons of gold, the study said.

East Germany's debts fell from \$12 to \$11.5 billion, and Bulgaria's from \$2.1 to

Dollar maintains strength

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, March 24 — The American dollar continued to be firm on the Thursday exchanges despite some active profit-taking. The Japanese yen was relatively firm and it traded at 238.50 levels after it had fallen to 241.80 on Wednesday. Market sentiment was once again swinging toward the belief that the Japanese economy would benefit the most from any further oil price cuts. The dollar's rise, however, was sustained by several factors and these all seem to point toward a belief that U.S. dollar interest rates would remain high for some time to come.

On the money markets, Eurodollar interest rates were firm at 9 1/4-9 1/2 percent level for the one-month period and 9%-9 1/2 percent for the one-year deposit. This represents a rise of around 1/4 percent for the shortest dated funds over prices two weeks ago. The money markets were of the opinion that the Federal Reserve Board would still have the fight against a rising money supply base as its number one priority.

On the bullion markets, gold and silver prices remained steady but fell back by close of business as Eurodollar deposits firmed. Gold prices traded at the \$417 an ounce which was higher than the \$410 levels reached on Wednesday. Silver prices traded around \$10.60 an ounce with little volatility being registered. Dealers are still worried that some price falls could be seen on the New York markets especially if the money supply figures show a rise over the previous week's \$4.8 billion.

In the exchanges, the German mark traded at 2,4250 levels, depressed by some profit-taking sales as well as the unwinding of some previously-held long mark positions now that the European Monetary System realignments have been formalized. The French franc traded around the 7.26-7.27 levels but the French bourses were generally nervous and erratic and awaited fresh political developments in France after President Mitterrand's promise to cut French inflation and wipe out French trade deficit within two years. He also appealed for a campaign to "buy French" which the other member of the EEC might consider as smacking of protectionism.

In other European developments, the Belgian Central Bank cut its base rate to 11 percent from 14 percent while the Portuguese currency was devalued by around four percent against the dollar. The British pound fell to 1.4590 levels after closing at an equally record low level of 1.4680 prices in New York on Wednesday night. Once again, the Bank of England did not move aggressively to support the pound. The Swiss franc was weaker at 2.0890 levels.

The following are the closing gold prices in U.S. dollars per troy ounce:

London	415.80
Paris	418.80
Frankfurt	416.80
Zurich	416.50
Hong Kong	414.60

Soviets boost trade surplus with developing countries

President Reagan's decision to resume grain sales to Moscow may also have been determining factors, informed Western sources said. U.S.-Soviet trade turnover was \$3.04 billion, slightly up on the 1981 figure.

Trade turnover with Japan increased by over 20 percent to \$5.04 billion. The 1982 overall surplus was \$9.45 billion, up from \$6.16 billion in 1981, and was based on a turnover of \$163.8 billion in line with the half-year figure and Western forecasts.

The Soviet Union does not publish figures for hard currency trade alone but this is the basis for most of its trade with the West and Japan, whereas trade with its Communist allies and developing countries is mostly done on a clearing basis. The Soviet trade surplus with its East European Comecon partners dropped to \$5.0 billion from \$6.8 billion in 1981.

Comecon external debts total \$74b

\$1.8 billion. Three countries held their debts at 1981 levels. They were Hungary with \$7.9 billion, Czechoslovakia \$3.7 billion and Romania \$10.5 billion.

Poland was the only East European country which experienced an increase in its debts from \$24.3 to \$26 billion. The institute forecast that Poland will not be able to service its debts before 1988.

Representatives of Poland's foreign creditor banks met in Warsaw Monday and Tuesday mainly to discuss Poland's debt servicing.

Comecon countries had an overall balance of payments deficit in 1982 of \$560 million. Only three countries had a surplus. They were the Soviet Union with \$3 billion, Bulgaria \$250 million and East Germany \$200 million. All the others registered deficits. Poland was worst off with a deficit of \$3 billion.

Italy and Ireland were the only other countries to show small increases.

In France, however, the number of people out of work in February fell by 2.3 percent against the previous month and stood at just over two million. Greece registered a sharp reduction of almost five percent, but the statistics office said that the figures should be considered with caution because a different employment structure there prevented direct comparison.

Compared with one year ago, the Community total rose by 16 percent, with more than 1.7 million persons without jobs. West Germany again had the largest rise of almost one-third, the office said. "The trend in Germany is certainly one of the most worrying," the EEC economist said.

In France, the year-on-year rise was the smallest of the 10 member states, just under four percent.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 p.m. Thursday		Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.20	9.10	
Bangladesh Taka	14.21	14.03	
Belgian Franc (1,000)	74.00	71.83	
Canadian Dollar		2.82	
Denmark Krone (100)	143.25	142.35	
Denmark Krone (1000)	124.50	122.50	
Egyptian Pound	3.06	3.02	
Emirates Dirham (100)	93.25	94.60	
French Franc (100)	48.00	47.75	
Greek Drachma (1,000)	38.00	41.50	
Indian Rupee (100)		34.53	
Iraqi Dinar	5.80		
Italian Lira (10,000)	24.04	24.00	
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	14.24	
Jordanian Dinar	9.70	9.58	
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.83	11.79	
Liberian Lira (100)	84.25	84.00	
Moroccan Dirham (100)	51.00	52.86	
Pakistani Rupee (100)	28.10	26.58	
Philippines Peso (100)		36.10	
Pound Sterling	5.08	5.05	
Qatari Riyal (100)	94.25	94.60	
Singapore Dollar (100)		164.85	
Spanish Peseta (1,000)		25.50	
Swiss Franc (100)	167.50	166.70	
Syrian Lira (100)	60.00	61.60	
U.S. Dollar	3.45	3.44	
Venezuelan Riyal (100)	75.15	75.10	
Selling Price			

arab news

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FASHION'S NEW LEAP

In China it is now a hundred designs and colors in sartorial fashions. The young, especially women, who for years have been forced to wear or bear a unisex outfit of blue or green cotton jackets are going crazy for the latest in garment styles. A fashion exhibition now going on in Peking is drawing some 12,000 to 13,000 starry-eyed visitors a day. With military guards stationed at the entrance to stop daredevil gatecrashers, and with young women queuing up early in the morning to buy one of the latest eye-catching dresses, it has all the appearance of a great leap forward from the drab, sober and colorless way of dressing enforced officially for reasons not connected with decorum.

Many will rejoice at the return of some sense of style, color and design to the arid garment desert of China. Hong Kong, at any rate that part of it which engages itself in apparel industry, has special reasons to be pleased with, particularly at a time when the silken threads between the world's most profitable and commercial-minded offshore island and China is slowly but steadily tightening. They can look forward to a life under the Chinese flag with less apprehension.

Others, in the meanwhile, can only hope that the pendulum will not swing too far in the other direction and wish the Chinese struck a neat balance between the excesses of Western fashion designers and utter lack of taste which they had to endure as part of a quixotic fight against "bourgeois" values.

Even in the West they have examples to emulate, one of them the British queen. Queen Elizabeth is anything but a clotheshorse even while she goes on a foreign tour. This is the way she conducted herself during her recent trip to California when she knew all too well that she will always be accompanied by Nancy Reagan whose clothes are very noisy and who, many believe, serves as walking billboards for a segment of U.S. fashion industry.

Many in America had hoped that the meeting between the two will be an undeclared fashion confrontation but Queen Elizabeth won it largely by not taking part in it and sticking to her traditional straightforward dress and the sturdy white shoes. Everyone in America was impressed and in the warm glow she left in her wake there is a lesson for all the fashion-conscious: in matters of dress it is a compromise between the needs of style and elegance and the dictates of decorum which always carries the day.

Saudi Arabian press review

The latest stand of the European countries on the Palestinian issue drew unfavorable comments from newspapers Thursday.

Al-Riyad noted that the summit communiqué did not even condemn the Israeli massacre of Palestinians in Shatila and Sabra camps in Beirut, which was similar to Nazi crimes in Europe. The paper warned that the Arabs will no longer stand the Israeli intransigence which hampered all sincere efforts to resolve the long-standing Middle East conflict.

Al-Jazirah wondered whether there was any change in the European countries' stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict. It also asked whether the European group could assume its Arab and international role and exert enough

pressure on Israel to recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Otak praised the firm stand taken by Lebanon at the tripartite talks on foreign troop withdrawal and supported the Lebanese authorities right to establish full control and ensure security and stability in the country.

It said the Lebanese authorities had been tough in the face of Israeli conspiracies which aimed at isolating Beirut from the Arab world and disturbing the country's security by fomenting discord and dissension among various factions and sects. "There is a noticeable progress following U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's arrival in Beirut with new American proposals," the paper added. (SPA)

Okinawans see occupation mentality in U.S. Marines

By Karl Schoenberger

NAHA, Okinawa, Japan —

The murder of a taxi cab driver has shocked hardened U.S. Marines and caused even pro-American Okinawans to complain bitterly about an "occupation mentality" among the U.S. military forces here.

Just before midnight Feb. 23, Koei Medoruma pounded on the locked door of the officers' club at Camp Hansen, a U.S. Marine corps base. He was staggering, and workers in the club mistook him to be under the influence of alcohol until they found him collapsed in the parking lot with stab wounds in his chest.

The 40-year-old driver died en route to a hospital, but not before identifying his assailants as two young Americans, a Marine spokesman said. U.S. authorities arrested two Marines shortly after the incident, the third murder in the past year allegedly involving Marines on Okinawa. They confessed to stabbing Medoruma with butcher knives in a robbery attempt, police and military authorities said.

Three days after Medoruma's murder, a taxi driver was robbed at knife-point at another Okinawa

military base. Two Marines were later arrested.

The local news media reported that a violent crime wave was under way, and revived the popular Okinawan sport of debating the merits and evils of the U.S. military's huge presence here.

Okinawa is the principal island in the chain south of the Japanese main islands that was ruled by the United States for 27 years following World War II. Now, as Japan's southernmost prefecture (state) with a local population of about one million, Okinawa remains a temporary home for about 20,000 Marines and another 12,000 American servicemen and women.

U.S. military authorities refused a Japanese request that the two murder suspects be handed over to local police, citing the right to retain custody under a U.S.-Japan accord. They also dismissed criticism the act showed an "occupation mentality," saying they had a clear legal foundation for their action. Tempers rose in the prefectural assembly.

Under the status of forces agreement, criminal suspects in U.S. custody can be kept out of the reach of Japanese police until they are finally indicted. But civilian prosecutors said indictment procedures

were not expected to be completed until the end of March.

Meanwhile, Okinawan police were eager to arrest the men identified by military authorities as private Loren G. Diedrich, 20, and an 18-year-old Marine whose name was withheld because he is a minor under Japanese law.

Shuzo Sakihama, a member of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party and a supporter of the presence of U.S. forces, said the murder case reflects a continuing "occupation mentality" on the part of the Americans.

As chairman of the assembly's special committee on U.S. bases, Sakihama sponsored a resolution demanding the suspects be turned over immediately to Japanese custody and demanding compensation for the victim's family and stricter "discipline" in the U.S. military. "Crimes by U.S. military men have been on the rise recently, both on and off the bases, and this shows laxness in military discipline," Sakihama said in an interview. "U.S.-Japan relations suffer by these senseless crimes. It makes the existence of U.S. bases on Okinawa politically difficult."

Police statistics actually suggest a decline in milit-

ary crime since Okinawa reverted to Japanese control slightly more than 10 years ago. Okinawa police arrested 239 U.S. military suspects in 200 incidents in 1982, compared with 242 suspects in 213 incidents in 1972. Police say increased cooperation with military authorities has resulted in more arrests for criminal incidents, meaning the figures reflect fewer serious crimes.

"Two or three hundred incidents a year, that's not alarmingly large in view of 32,000 active servicemen on Okinawa," said Herib Nakayoshi of the Marine corps public affairs office on Camp Butler. However, in those 10 years, there have been 15 murders involving U.S. military personnel, in a country where violent crime is relatively rare. Japanese were victims in six of those cases. "This murder was a real shock," Nakayoshi said. "We'd come a long way. We were even in the midst of a crime prevention campaign."

Medoruma's slaying has developed into a "highly emotional issue," said Herib Nakayoshi, an editor at the Japanese language *Okinawa Times*. "It's a question of extraterritoriality. Our own police can't even arrest these men." (AP)

U.N. agency may steer the

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

WASHINGTON —

There is a political stalemate in Poland between the regime and the people and a policy stalemate in the West over what to do about it. In these circumstances, an odd duck of a United Nations agency known as the International Labor Organization

martial law was imposed 15 months ago. Warsaw has acknowledged the ILO's competence to seek respect for its standards — the regime has argued, unconvincingly, that its new labor arrangements meet them.

At the recent meeting of its governing body in Geneva, the ILO came down hard on Poland. For months, the organization had been pursuing the regime for its labor practices, aware that too hard a pursuit could lead to a Polish withdrawal ending ILO influence but alert to the need to enforce its standards. As a result of intense debate between and within many delegations, including the American, the ILO had granted the Poles two delays to answer its queries.

At Geneva this month, the Poles for the first time stayed home, raising the question of whether they might let their membership lapse. They are already in default on dues. The ILO responded by giving them until April 15 to respond. If they do not, a prosecutorial "commission of inquiry" — by ILO criteria a harsh sanction — will be established. The vote was 46 (including the Third World) to 4 (three Soviet Union plus Cuba).

The question now is this: What's in it for Jaruzelski to get back into the good graces of the ILO? He needs worker support to get Poland moving again, but he does not want to appear to be

Gibraltar heading for the rocks

By Robert Low

GIBRALTAR —

No news is bad news for Gibraltar. What the people were waiting for last week was news that the border with Spain would soon be opened to all traffic without any restrictions.

When no date emerged from last week's visit in London by Señor Fernando Mirran, the Spanish foreign minister, there was general disappointment on the Rock. The reason is that the partial opening of the frontier by Spain last December after a 13-year closure is hitting the Gibraltar economy. "The

effect has been totally negative" said Wilfred Garcia, president of the Gibraltar Chamber of Commerce. He estimates that Gibraltar is suffering a net loss of up to \$225,000 a week. "The situation is likely to be critical in a very short time," he said.

Gibraltarians are streaming across the border every day to buy fresh fruit and vegetables at half the price they are on the Rock as well as indulging themselves in meals, outings and weekend holidays. If they spend 72 hours in Spain they can bring back duty-free goods. Meanwhile, the videos and other luxury items they used to spend their money on

while cooped up under "siege" go unsold in Gibraltar's shops.

The Spanish customs on the other hand, are taking a tough line. Spaniards coming back out of Gibraltar can buy little more than a few bars of chocolate. "They even check to see if you have bought the shirt you are wearing in Gibraltar. Our economy is being bled," says Sir Joshua Hassan, Gibraltar's chief minister. The biggest benefit of an unrestricted opening of the border was, the Gibraltarians feel, a surge of tourists from the Costa del Sol for day trips. The Spanish government fears that unlimited access to Spain via Gibraltar airport would divert lucrative traffic from Malaga. Sir Joshua thinks this is "ridiculous". Instead, it would help to develop the southwest of Andalusia, he says.

In the background lies the closure of the Ministry of Defense dockyard, employing 1,000 persons, which is due toward the end of this year. Redundancies will begin in June. The British firm of Appleton is studying commercialization of the yard but nothing has yet been signed. Even if it does take over, it would employ only 350 men at first. "A report on commercialization of the yard said the worst thing that could happen to Gibraltar would be a simultaneous opening of the frontier and closure of the yard," said Garcia. "That now looks like happening." Yet despite such an indication of slow British withdrawal, Gibraltarians remain touchingly proud of staying British.

One optimistic note, some observers feel is that the new Spanish government takes a more realistic attitude than its predecessors to the many difficulties it will face in proceeding with its claim to sovereignty over the Rock. If negotiations with Britain do re-start, the most that Britain feels it can offer is a slow improvement in economic and cultural relations between Gibraltar and Spain.

Perhaps that would create an atmosphere in which the next generation of Gibraltarians would be prepared at least to consider some new arrangements for government of the Rock. But nobody's betting on it. (ONS)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

U.K. and freedom

Sir,

The vitriol and bias expressed in L.O. Cianin's letter, published on Jan. 19 in your paper only served to weaken the considerable efforts that are being made to bring about a constructive and lasting peace in Palestine and Northern Ireland.

Naturally, hypocrisy dominates politics and no doubt always will, but decisions that affect the interests of millions of people are bound to be well received in some quarters and violently opposed in others. Surely this is an age when pragmatism can reign over violence?

Historically, British governments have inherited a very unsavory situation in Northern Ireland, but have been committed constitutionally to defend the rights of the majority of their subjects. The military solution is regrettable and expensive (lives and money), but necessary, though it is a gross exaggeration to describe it as an occupying force.

The people of Northern Ireland carry on their lives in the same way as those citizens in the rest of the U.K. and are subjected to military interference only when the security forces pursue those terrorists

who cause grief and carnage with their grenades and bullets. What commitment have these same terrorists made to end the violence if there was a military withdrawal? The answer is none whatsoever!

Yes, I sincerely believe that Margaret Thatcher should have met with the PLO representatives — dialogue invariably leads to better understanding. Sadly, she found herself bound to a rigid line by the very qualities she is most admired for — determination and forthrightness. She has always condemned terrorism in any form and was only seeking a similar declaration from the Arab alliance. This they refused to give. Nevertheless this issue is far too important to debate semantics and justifies any means to obtain a peaceful solution, let us pray that sense will prevail.

Whatever our critics may say, I am convinced that they will admit the United Kingdom leads the vanguard of democratic opinion on the issue of freedom and human rights.

Mark W. Lloyd
101 Ebury Street
London S.W.1,

Today is Friday, March 25, the 84th day of 1983. There are 281 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

Islam in perspective

What the Qur'an teaches

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Beneficent

They said, 'O Houd, you have brought us no clear proof. We are not forsaking our gods on your mere word, nor are we going to believe in you. All we can say is that some god of ours may have smitten you with something evil.' He said: 'I call Allah to witness, and do you also bear witness, that I dissociate myself from all those you claim to be partners to Allah. Scheme against me, all of you, if you will, and give me no respite. Indeed I have placed my trust in Allah, my Lord and your Lord. There is no living creature which He does not hold by its forelock. Straight indeed is the path of my Lord. If you turn away, still I have delivered to you the message with which I was sent to you. My Lord may replace you with another people. You can do Him no harm. My Lord watches over all things.'

And so, when Our judgment came to pass, We by Our grace, saved Houd and those who shared his faith. We have indeed saved them from brutal suffering. Such were Aad. They denied the revelations of their Lord, disobeyed His messengers, and followed the bidding of every arrogant, unrestrained tyrant. They were pursued by a curse in this world and on the Day of Judgment. Indeed, And denied their Lord. Oh, away with Aad, the people of Houd.

(Houd : 11 : 53-60)

Why Aad were destroyed?

It is clear from the opening verses in this passage that Houd's people had gone so far astray that they thought him to be deranged, after one of their deities had smitten him with something evil. They made the point that Houd did not bring them any clear evidence of his message. Little did they consider that no evidence is needed to prove the oneness of Allah. All that people need to accept this truth is to be properly reminded and directed on how they should think. They only needed to consult their consciences. They were, however, not prepared to do that. They told their messenger point blank that they were not prepared to abandon their false gods just because Houd was encouraging them to do so, without having given them a clear proof of the truthfulness of his message. They simply did not believe him.

There was little Houd could do at this point apart from throwing a challenge to them and to put his trust entirely in Allah and to give a final warning to those who denied him and his message, dissociating himself completely from their erring practices.

His statement, as related in this passage, shows how he cut himself completely from them, despite the fact that they were his people and he was their brother. He was not happy to stay among them when they have chosen a way different from that of Allah. The two sides could not have any tie between them when the tie of faith had been severed. Houd asked Allah to be his witness as he dissociated himself from his people and abandoned them altogether. He indeed asked them to be his witnesses as he declared to them that he was going his own separate way, so that they could have no doubt as to his final attitude. Throughout, Houd had the dignity, confidence and reassurance which faith imparts.

Indeed, Houd's attitude is very impressive as he, single-handedly confronted his people who were gigantic in stature, rough, impudent and so ignorant as to believe that their false idols could possess anyone with evil or cause him to be deranged. They even considered Houd's call which attri-

buted godhead to Allah alone, as madness. For any man to confront such people who were so blindly confident that their beliefs were correct, pointing out to them that they were false and rebuking them for having such beliefs is indeed so remarkable. Houd, however, did not stop at that. He threw a challenge to them asking them to allow him no time to get ready and giving them no time to calm down. It is indeed amazing that a single man could embark on such a confrontation with people who combined power and roughness as their basic qualities. Our amazement disappears when we consider Houd's causes for such a confrontation. Houd's attitude was one of a man full of faith in Allah, confident that Allah's promises are always fulfilled, assured of His support. It is so strong that Allah's promise of support becomes a tangible reality in which there can be no doubt. He can see it and feel it. It is not a promise for the future which is unknown; it is a reality which is there to see and feel.

He said: I call Allah to witness, and do you also bear witness, that I dissociate myself from all those you claim to be partners to Allah. I call Allah to be my witness that I am innocent of all those you associate with Him as His partners. You also should testify for me that I have declared to you that I dissociate all your false gods. Assemble together, all of you and all your invented gods whom you claim to have smitten me with evil and scheme together against me, giving me not a moment's notice, for I do not fear anything from you. Indeed I have placed my trust in Allah, my Lord and your Lord. Your denials and rejection notwithstanding, the truth remains that Allah is the Lord of all of us. He is indeed the only Lord of the universe. He has no partners.

There is no living creature which He does not hold by its forelock. This is a very real image of Allah's power. It portrays Him as holding every creature that walks on earth by its forelock, whether man or animal. He has indeed power over them all. His power is depicted so vividly because such a vivid picture fits well with the strength, roughness and insensibility of the people Houd was

addressing. This is followed by a statement that divine laws never fail. Straight indeed is the path of my Lord. All this, then, combines together real strength, straightforwardness and determination on Houd's part.

The secret of this dignified attitude and the challenge made by Houd can be found in these firm words which depict the nature of the truth as deeply and clearly felt by him. His Lord, who is also the Lord of all creation, is too powerful: There is no living creature which He does not hold by its forelock. Those rough giants of Houd's people are no more than creatures whom Allah holds by their forelocks. Why should he fear anything which they may cause when they cannot have power over him unless Allah wills? Why indeed should he consider himself to belong to them when he follows an entirely different route from theirs? (Perhaps we should add here that the word used in the Qur'an for "living creature" generally refers to animals. In its broader use, as in this instance, it refers to all living creatures. The shade of its narrower meaning, i.e. animals, are always present.)

As the advocate of Allah's cause feels this truth within himself, he is left with no doubt as to his own destiny. He feels no hesitation to go along his way. The truth we mean here is that a godhead which is clearly felt by those who truly believe in Allah.

When Houd has made his challenge, relying on Allah's might which he portrays in its most majestic form, he warns his people explaining to them that he has done his duty, conveyed his message and has left them to face Allah's power: If you turn away, still I have delivered to you the message with which I was sent to you. My Lord may replace you with another people. Such people would be more worthy of Allah's message because they follow His guidance after Houd's people have been punished and destroyed by their errors. They have no power to cause Allah any harm. Their departure leaves no vacuum whatsoever. And Allah will surely protect His good servants and enforce His laws. The wicked can have no escape: You can do him no harm. My Lord watches over all things.

This was the decisive word. All argument is over and the warnings are fulfilled: When Our judgment came to pass, We, by Our grace, saved Houd and those who shared his faith. We have indeed saved them from brutal suffering. Houd and his followers were saved by a direct act of Allah's mercy which singled them out and kept them safe from the general punishment which engulfed their people. The punishment is described here as "brutal suffering" because this description fits with the general atmosphere and with the fact that Houd's people were rough tyrants. Now that Aad have been destroyed reference is made to them indicating that they have been far removed. Their crimes are recorded against them and they have been pursued with a curse. Such were Aad. They are now far away, although, a moment ago they have been shown engulfed by their punishment. Yet they are gone where they are lost and forgotten. They denied the revelations of their Lord, disobeyed His messengers. They have disobeyed only one messenger, but since all Allah's messengers have preached

the same message whoever disobeys one messenger disobeys them all. The use of the plural in reference to revelations and messengers has also a stylistic purpose. Their crime is made to look much more horrid and ghastly when we realize that they have denied revelations and disobeyed messengers. And followed the bidding of every arrogant, unrestrained tyrant. They are required to liberate themselves from the tyranny of anyone who want to impose his authority over them. They must think for themselves and exercise their freedom of choice. They cannot just waste their humanity by accepting the role of blind followers of anyone.

And were destroyed because they slavishly followed arrogant tyrants. They were also cursed: They were pursued by a curse in this world and on the Day of Judgment. Then the sheet of their indictment is made absolutely clear: Indeed, And denied their Lord. They are, then, expelled and dispatched far away. This is made in clear, firm words which serve as the title of the curse pursuing them: Oh, away with Aad, the people of Aad.

Thus we realize that the issue between Houd and Aad was that of Allah's Lordship over all people, and their submission to Him alone. It is the issue of who has the authority to legislate. Who is the Lord to whom all must submit? This is apparent in Allah's words, rendered in translation: Such were Aad. They denied the revelations of their Lord, disobeyed His messengers, and followed the bidding of every arrogant unrestrained tyrant. They were punished for their disobedience of Allah's messenger and their following of the bidding of tyrants. Islam, on the other hand, requires its followers to obey the messengers, because their bidding comes from Allah. At the same time, Muslims must also obey all tyrants. This is indeed the parting of the ways between Islam and Ignorance, submission to Allah and denial of His message.

It is abundantly clear, then, that the message of Allah's unity emphasizes first of all the need to liberate man from submission to anyone other than Allah, and the need to revolt against the authority of all tyrants who impose themselves as gods. It considers the forfeiture of freedom by the blind following of tyrants, a capital crime of disbelief and denial of Allah, the perpetrators of which deserve to be destroyed in this life and to be punished in the hereafter. Allah has created man to be free, to worship no fellow creature and to maintain his freedom in the face of any chief or leader. This is the essence of man's nobility. If man does not protect it he deserves no kindness from Allah. No community of people can claim to have any degree of dignity and humanity when they submit themselves to anyone other than Allah. Those who do submit to fellow creatures, and obey their legislation, cannot be excused for being overpowered and having no choice. After all, they are the majority while the tyrants are a small minority. If the majority wants to liberate themselves they need only to sacrifice a small portion of what they actually do sacrifice at the alter of the tyrants. They pay them willingly the tax of being humiliated in every respect.

Commentary by Sayyid Qutb

Life of the Prophet-103

Al-Mustalaq: successful expedition and aftermath

By Adil Salahi

The setbacks suffered by the Muslims at Uhud, Al-Rajah and Bir Maonah were perhaps wiped off the memories of both the Muslims and their enemies by the successful campaigns launched by the Muslims against both their enemies, both internal and external. Following each other in quick succession, these campaigns re-established the reputation of the Muslims as a fighting force which does not cover off in the face of any challenge. Hence, the enemies of Islam had to reconsider their strategy. Up until that time their hostility was open and direct. Now, some of the enemies of Islam, at least, recognized the need to change their tactics.

In Madinah, some of its Arab inhabitants were resorting to hypocrisy right from the early days of the establishment of the Muslim state. They recognized at the time that they could not go against the wishes of a large portion of their community who accepted the new religion. They, therefore, pretended to be Muslims, hoping to share the gains of Islam if and when it met with success. Deep inside, however, they did not believe in Allah or His messenger. They were ready to join forces with any enemy of Islam seeking to nip it in the bud. Yet, they had always to adopt shifty grounds. They could not afford to throw their lot completely with the enemies of Islam. They did not have the necessary strength and courage to make their feelings clear and to join the other enemies of Islam in an open campaign.

Over the last few years, the hypocrites in Madinah were playing a dirty game against the Muslims. Their wickedness and hatred of Islam surfaced whenever the Muslims suffered a setback. On the other hand, they were quick to suppress their true feelings and claim to be loyal to Islam and to the Prophet whenever the Muslims achieved a significant victory. This, however, did not prevent the hypocrites from resorting to taunts and ridicule and spreading false rumors against the Muslims, whenever they had an opportunity to do so. Indeed, the hypocrites' hatred of Islam increased in proportion to how more firmly established the authority of the Muslims became. We have seen how they tried to persuade the Jews to fight the Muslims, pledging them their own support. They, however, did not fulfill their promises when they realized that the Muslims' victory was inevitable.

The hypocrites continued to try to make others fight Islam. As for their own efforts in the attempt to defeat Islam, they preferred to work from within. Perhaps the best example of their tactics and treachery is provided by the events of the Prophet's expedition against the tribe of Al-Mustalaq.

The Prophet received information that the tribe of Al-Mustalaq, under the leadership of its chief Al-Harith ibn Ahu Dhirar, was preparing to launch an attack on Madinah. In keeping with his successful strategy of surprising his enemies before they had time to launch their attack on Madinah, the Prophet marched at the head of a large force of Muslims, heading toward his enemies. It was the

custom of the Prophet when he went on an expedition of any kind to have at least one of his wives with him. He would have a toss among them to decide which of them was to join him. This time he took with him Aisha.

This expedition was also noteworthy for the large number of hypocrites who joined the Muslim army. The hypocrites normally did not join any Muslim army. We have seen how, in the battle of Uhud, their leader, Abdullah ibn Ubai, deserted the army before the battle with three hundred of his followers. After that the hypocrites did not participate in any other expedition until the Prophet moved against the tribe of Al-Mustalaq.

There were two obvious reasons for the change of tactics by the hypocrites. Recent encounters between Muslims and their enemies were all successful. Moreover, the Muslims won with little bloodshed. There was no reason why the same should not happen again this time. The coming clash was with a single Arab tribe who was, perhaps, no match to the Muslims. Success and a large booty were to be expected. The hypocrites felt they had little to lose if they joined the Muslim army. Indeed there was the possibility of sharing the booty if they went.

The other reason was perhaps a secret kept in the minds of the leaders of the hypocrites. After all, they were always looking out for an opportunity to undermine the Muslims. Such an opportunity might well arise in an expedition of this sort. Moreover, by joining the Muslim army, the hypocrites would reduce their alienation from the Muslim community. Many of them who were not known to be hypocrites felt that they would ally any suspicion to Al-Mustalaq as to their sincerity by joining the army. This would even help them more in their plotting against Islam.

The Muslim army marched until they reached a water spring called Al-Marrisse where Al-Harith and his men had gathered. There are two different reports of the events that took place. The first account, which is perhaps less authentic, speaks of the Prophet asking his companion Umar ibn Al-Khattab to call on the people of Al-Mustalaq to accept Islam. He stood out and shouted to them asking them to declare that they believed in Allah as the only god and they would be safe, and their properties untouched. They declined the offer and both sides started to throw their arrows against each other. After a while the Prophet ordered his companions to go on the attack. In no time, they overwhelmed their enemies who surrendered en masse after ten of their numbers had been killed. Only one Muslim soldier was killed—and that too by mistake. Thus the whole tribe with all its belongings were taken over by the Muslims.

The other account which, on balance, seems to be more accurate suggests that the Muslims took their enemies by surprise and attacked them while they were encamping close to the water spring. Whichever account was true there was no doubt with regard to the results of the expedition. The tribe as a whole had fallen prisoner to the Muslims.

According to the traditions which prevailed at the time in Arabia and outside it, prisoners of war were to become slaves. This applied to both men and women. Two hundred families of Al-Mustalaq faced the fate of slavery as a result of their ill-considered plan to attack the Muslims. It has been emphasized here that such a prospect was not as terrible as we tend to think nowadays. Slaves in the Muslim state enjoyed all their human rights as fellow human beings to their masters. This was true only in the land of Islam. Islam treats every individual as a human being who is susceptible to be a good servant of Allah. Hence, no one is despised or looked down upon simply because he lacked in fortune or circumstances.

The Prophet, however, did not like this prospect for his vanquished enemies. His primary thoughts did not follow the tendencies of kings and emperors. First and foremost, he was a messenger from Allah whose task was to save mankind from subjugation to false gods. He did not view the financial well-being of the Muslim community as his top priority. He realized that an act of kindness which one adopts consciously is, therefore, forbidden because of its ill-effect on society.

Having said that, I should add that a person who is rich enough to wear expensive and luxurious items should not overlook his duty which enemies had imposed on rich people before it was too late.

The Prophet played a master stroke which brought about the desired result without any adverse repercussions. Among the women taken prisoners was Barrah, the daughter of Al-Harith, the chief of Al-Mustalaq. The Prophet took her to himself, granted her freedom from slavery and proposed to her. When she accepted he married her and renamed her Juwairiyah. When the Muslims realized what the Prophet had done they felt that they could not keep the people of Al-Mustalaq as their slaves. This was true only in the land of Islam. Islam treats every individual as a human being who is susceptible to be a good servant of Allah. Hence, no one is despised or looked down upon simply because he lacked in fortune or circumstances.

Yet the Prophet could not enact a special legislation for the tribe of Al-Mustalaq. As long as slavery was an international practice, the Muslims could not abolish it unilaterally. If any Muslims ever fell prisoners in a battle they would have been enslaved by their enemies. Hence, enemy prisoners had to be treated likewise. Yet the situation called for an immediate action to help Al-Mustalaq people before it was too late.

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So far, the events of the expedition of Al-Mustalaq were highly satisfactory to the Muslims. But this was not to last long. The hypocrites were quick on the act to mar the Muslims' achievement. We will explain this next week, Allah willing.

AOUR DIALOGUE

my confusion.

Muhammad Akhruzaman
P.O. Box 1659
Jeddah

A. Our approach to what Allah has forbidden us must always be one of acceptance and satisfaction that Allah forbids only what is harmful, physically, socially or morally, and that He has not left out anything of importance without making clear to us His ruling concerning it. An important rule in matters which are forbidden or made expressly lawful is that if the judgment is based explicitly on a certain reason which is made clear then the ruling is valid as long as the reason obtains. Where no reason is expressly made for a certain ruling then the ruling is valid for all time.

Another important rule of Islamic legislation is that where specific items are made the subject of a certain ruling, which may be either permission or prohibition, then the same ruling cannot be extended to other items unless the ruling itself is based on certain reasons which are clearly applicable to other items. In this connection we may give the example of the Prophet's pronouncement: "People are partners in three things: water, grazing grass and fire." This pronouncement indicates that only these three items are common property. Advocates of socialism try to make use of this pronouncement to seek endorsement of socialism by Islam. They claim that since these matters are of great importance to the public then anything which is of similar importance must be nationalized. In the Islamic sense, this is rubbish. The fact that the Prophet specified the items which are common property and specified their number as well means that this ruling applies only to these three items and not to anything else. There is a different Islamic ruling which concerns the natural resources of the land. Advocates of socialism must justify what they call for on the basis of their own arguments. They must not try to give socialism an Islamic dress when socialism, like all other man-made philosophies and creeds, is in conflict with Islam.

Concerning silk and gold, the prohibition is stated in the Prophet's pronouncement when he held gold in one hand and silk in the other and said: "These two are forbidden for the men of my nation, lawful for its women." He did not specify the reason for this prohibition. We can deduce the reasons certainly, but whatever we deduce is not considered final and exclusive in the sense that the prohibition applies only when these reasons we have deduced are valid. The prohibition remains for all time. The fact the Prophet's pronouncement specifies these two items means that the prohibition applies to them only. I must stress quite clearly that no other item can be prohibited on the basis of this pronouncement of the Prophet, regardless of its value in the market or its exotic appearance. After all, it is not forbidden to wear

beautiful and handsome articles, whether as clothing or ornaments. Allah says in the Qur'an: "Children of Adam, eat on your adornment for every act of worship, and eat and drink, but do not waste: Indeed, Allah does not love the wasteful." Says: "Who is there among the means of sustenance?" Says: "They are lawful in the life of this world unto all the believers—to be theirs alone on resurrection day." (7: 31-32) This clearly indicates that what we may term as "luxury items" are not forbidden, unless they are made of gold or silk.

Your question raises another point which must be tackled separately, namely, showing off. To adopt an attitude of showing off, in any circumstances, is forbidden. The prohibition here is based on the injury such an action causes to others. But showing off can have a much wider area than wearing expensive articles. Indeed, the two need not be interrelated. One can wear fine and expensive things without adding an air of haughtiness to his behavior. Conversely, one can be haughty, lofty and disdainful of others although he may wear the cheapest of articles. This is, indeed, an attitude of mind which one adopts consciously. It is, therefore, forbidden because of its ill-effect on society.

Having said that, I should add that a person who is rich enough to wear expensive and luxurious items should not overlook his duty which enemies had imposed on rich people before it was too late.

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EVENTS OF ISLAMIC HISTORY 022 AH

—The year began on Saturday, Nov. 30, 642 A.C.
—Umar ibn Al-Ashraf marched from Askandariah toward the west and conquered Barqa. Further he moved to Tripoli and conquered it

And jump to sixth position

Spurs stamp their mark on Villa

LONDON, March 24 (Agencies) — Mark Falco stole new signing Alan Brazil's thunder with two goals to give Tottenham Hotspur a crucial 2-0 win over Aston Villa at White Hart Lane in an English League Division One clash Wednesday night.

However, Brazil, the 500,000-pound former Ipswich striker making his home debut, created Falco's first after 35 minutes. The result means that the London club jump to sixth position in the English First Division — well poised to qualify for next season's UEFA Cup. Only 20,000 watched the match.

Brazil was in sparkling form but frequently out of synchronization with the rest of his teammates.

Steve Walford's first goal of the season, ten minutes from time, saved Norwich City a precious point at home to Coventry Walford, in only his second game back after suspension, lobbed the ball home from 20 yards, to level

the scores after Steve Whilton had fired Coventry into a 68th minute lead.

Wrexham will meet Swansea City in the final of the Welsh Cup. They made sure of a home and away final clash with John Toshack's team by drawing 0-0 at home to Caernarvon Town, after having beaten the "minnows" on their ground.

Tottenham secretary Peter Day confirmed: "We have accepted the invitation. We have had clearance from both the F.A. and FIFA and there are no political problems — otherwise we would not be going."

He would not reveal the financial carrot offered but said: "Any summer tours we undertake have to have the right sort of monetary rewards."

In Paris, France and the Soviet Union drew 1-1 in an entertaining friendly soccer international in the Parc Des Princes Stadium Wednesday. France, showing a lot of changes from the side which finished fourth in the World Cup, will be pleased with the performances of new recruits Luis Fernandez, Jean-Marc Ferri and Loic Amisse.

After surviving an early French onslaught, the Soviet Union gradually took control and it was no surprise when Tcherneukov opened the scoring on the half-hour mark. But the French, who will host the 1984 European Championship, came roaring back under the inspiration of Michel Platini. Platini, who plays for Italian giants Juventus, set up the equalizers in the 43rd minute with a delicate back heel to Fernandez, who drove home with consummate ease.

Central defender Dave Watson, 36, a veteran of 600 English League and Cup games, will join the back line of the Vancouver Whitecaps, the North American Soccer League club said Wednesday.

Watson, from Stoke City, has played 65 games for England. He signed a standard NASL two-year contract with a two-year option. Terms were not disclosed.

Watson, who will be available for the Whitecaps' Spring Cup game April 17 against the New York Cosmos, has also played in England for Notts County, Rotherham, Sunderland, Manchester City and Southampton.



Mark Falco... nets both for Spurs

In Milk Cup final

United could upset Liverpool's applecart

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — Liverpool and Manchester United, two of the proudest and most famous names in English soccer, clash Saturday to decide the season's first major domestic trophy — the Milk Cup, formerly known as the League Cup.

All 92,000 tickets have been sold for the Wembley final between the two northern giants with Bob Paisley, in his last season as Liverpool manager, attempting to win the Cup for record third consecutive time.

For Liverpool, victory will be a well-earned bonus to add to what will surely be yet another First Division championship. With one quarter of the league season remaining, only a miracle will stop Paisley's men — a staggering 13 points clear of their nearest rivals — from retaining the title.

On paper, the match should be an entertaining showpiece between two teams studded with international stars. Each has a combination on aggression, style in midfield and some deadly goal scorers up front, Kenny Dalglish and Ian Rush — the First Division's leading marksman — for Liverpool, Frank Stapleton and the prodigious Norman Whiteside, not yet 18, for United.

United, whose fanatical supporters have

been starved of success since the F.A. Cup — the country's premier knockout competition — went to Old Trafford in 1977, are at last developing again into one of the nation's most feared sides.

As well as Saturday's Milk Cup final appearance, Ron Atkinson's team has also reached next month's semifinals of the F.A. Cup and is placed third in the league standings. Although Liverpool will start slight favorite Saturday, a United victory will be no major upset.

Manchester's task, however, is bound to be hindered by the absence of England midfielder Bryan Robson, arguably the most accomplished all-round player in the country. Robson, who injured ankle ligaments playing against Arsenal in the semi-final last month, has failed to recover in time. His place is almost certain to go to England colleague Ray Wilkins, who has been unable to find a regular place in the team since returning from injury himself. Liverpool expects to have Graeme Souness, who sat out Tuesday night's match at Brighton, back in midfield after a calf strain.

Although Saturday's Wembley encounter overshadows the league program, the team

sandwiched between Liverpool and Manchester United at the top, Watford, will be hoping to consolidate its second place at the expense of Stoke.

But the gritty midlands outfit provides tough opposition on its home ground, where it has lost only three times this season, and Watford will do well to earn a draw.

All the relegation-threatened sides have home matches. Improving Norwich would appear to have the best chance of victory against suspect travelers West Ham while Birmingham, with only six wins all term, could well beat an inconsistent Notts County.

One of the most attractive matches should be on the south coast where Brighton's recent form has belied its place at the bottom of the standings. Semifinalists in the F.A. Cup, the seaside club squandered a two-goal lead against mighty Liverpool on Tuesday and had to settle for a draw. On Saturday, it again hosts formidable opposition in the shape of fourth-placed Aston Villa, last season's winner of the European Champions Cup.

Other First Division matches pit Everton against Arsenal, Luton against Sunderland, Nottingham Forest against Southampton and Swansea against West Bromwich.

United, whose fanatical supporters have

For four-day tie against Guyana

Gavaskar back at India's helm

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, March 24 (AP) — Sunil Gavaskar, India's leading run-scorer in Test cricket whose form so far on their West Indian tour has been one of the major disappointments, takes over the captaincy for the four-day match against Guyana starting here Thursday.

Tour captain Kapil Dev is resting and vice-captain Syed Kirmani has been sidelined by a sprained ankle sustained when playing tennis three days ago. Gavaskar, deposed as captain after the recent disastrous series against Pakistan, which India lost 3-0 and replaced for this tour by all-rounder Kapil Dev, has been only a shadow of the batsman who plundered West Indian bowlers on two previous tours of the Caribbean in 1971 and 1976. Many feel it is only a temporary loss of form which he will put right soon.

The Indians have won both their previous games against territorial teams, beating Trinidad and Tobago by an innings and the Windwards by 129 runs.

Gavaskar is the 1983 West Indies champion in both the Shell Shield four-day competition and the Geddes Grant / Harrison Line limited-overs trophy competition.

West Indies captain Clive Lloyd, who led them to both titles, is resting and former West Indies Test player, 40-year-old Roy Fredericks who hit 103 and 217 in two innings on

the call to bodies such as the Football Association (F.A.) and the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) came in parliament after MPs condemned "financial inducements" to encourage British sportsmen and women to play in South Africa.

He warned in parliament that "short-term financial inducements" could cause "lasting damage to the reputations" of governing bodies and "disrupt successful Commonwealth sporting links."

The call to bodies such as the Football Association (F.A.) and the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) came in parliament after MPs condemned "financial inducements" to encourage British sportsmen and women to play in South Africa.

MacFarlane said: "I can only hope that everybody will recognize the potential seriousness of what is happening, and the deep impact it could have on relationships elsewhere. I can only hope governing bodies will draw to the attention of their players the need to reject these short-term financial inducements."

For the opposition Labor Party, Denis Howell said he had ascertained that between five and six million pounds had been offered to sportsmen last year "for the purpose of undermining and severely damaging British sporting interests."

The former Labor sports minister said the next Commonwealth Games, in Edinburgh in 1986, Test cricket and other major international sporting events were "now very seriously threatened by this financial inducements that is going on."

MacFarlane had been urged by Labor MP Dennis Canavan to investigate South African-linked "slush funds" which, he said, were created to "smash the Gleneagles agreement", in addition to organization like the Freedom for Sport campaign.

points from their extra match in hand.

The keenest encounter of the week saw Jeddah Badminton Club (JBC) 2 just managing to put it across second-from-bottom IAL. In a match where fortunes fluctuated JBC 2 snatched a 5-4 victory.

Positions

	F	W	L	Pts.
KKH 1	11	10	1	89
JBC 1	10	10	0	82
Abbar	10	9	1	74
Canada	10	8	2	73
Trotter	10	6	4	52
KAIA	10	5	5	50
Whitaker 1	11	5	6	47
Zara	10	5	5	46
JBC 2	11	4	7	35
KKH 2	10	3	7	25
ACE	10	3	7	22
Lockheed	9	2	7	19
IAL	9	1	8	18
Whitaker 2	10	1	9	13

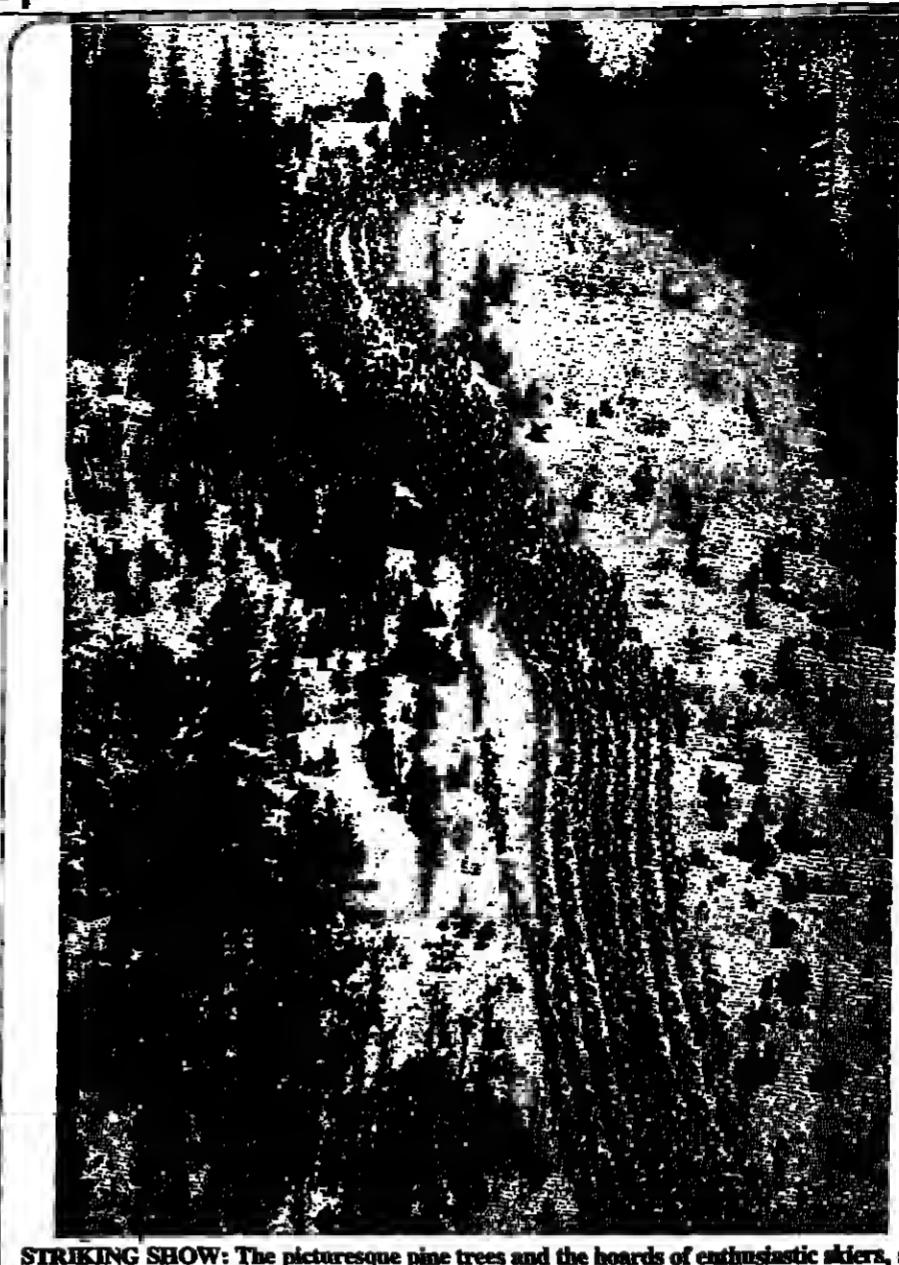
JBC, KKH record cakewalk wins

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 24 — The top two teams of the Slazenger-sponsored Jeddah Badminton League, Jeddah Badminton Club (JBC) 1 and King Khaled Hospital (KKH) 1, continued their fierce battle for the premier berth.

Both the teams registered fluent 9-0 victories and were neck and neck in the race for the top honors. While JBC 1 handed a thrashing to Trotter, KKH 1 trounced ACE to stay seven points clear of JBC 1.

But KKH 1 has played one game more than JBC 1, who are really breathing down their necks. Also JBC 1 are the only team with a clean record and in all probability can overtake the leaders with a resounding 9-0 victory over Lockheed. Abbar could also climb higher if they could snatch maximum



STRIKING SHOW: The picturesque pine trees and the boards of enthusiastic skiers, seen gliding down the hillside, blend with the snow to give a striking show in the annual Marathon Skiing Tournament in Finland. The 13,000 participants, on all-time record, indicated a growing popularity of the decade-old event which saw only 1,000 skiers on the starting ranks ten years back. Norwegian Mahmer Rishmyhr covered the 75 km course in three hours and 43 minutes to win the event.

Poles prove too swift for Yugoslavs

TOKYO, March 24 (AFP) — Strongly favored Poland overpowered Yugoslavia 12-2 (4-1, 3-0, 5-1) for its second straight win in as many matches in the Group 'B' Ice Hockey World Championships here Thursday.

The Poles were just too strong for the Yugoslavs, who suffered their third defeat in three games so far. Andrzej Hachua scored a hat-trick, while Andrzej Zabawa, Jerzy Christ and Jan Piecko slapped in two goals each. For the Yugoslavs Marian Gorenc and Jozef Kavac were the scorers.

Meanwhile, Austria edged Norway 3-2 (1-1, 2-0, 0-1) for their first win in the second match of the day.

Gregory Holst opened the score at 4:34

while the Austrians were attacking powerfully. After catching a loose puck, Holst dribbled past the Norwegian defense and slapped in. Trond Abrahamsen made it 1-1 seconds before the first period ended. He made a long slap shot from the blue line. The puck hit goalkeeper Robert Mar's gloves and rebounded into the net.

The second period saw the Austrians outplay the Norwegians in team coordination and they scored two goals without reply. The Norwegians made it 3-2 one minute after the start of the final period with Erik Kristiansen scoring on a pass from Oerjan Loedal following a goalmouth melee.

In the final minute the Norwegians went hard for an equalizer with even goalkeeper Jim Martinen participating in the attack.

Lendl makes short work of Mayotte

MILAN, Italy, March 24 (AP) — Top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia downed Tim Mayotte of the U.S. 6-2, 7-6 in a second round match of the \$165,000 Cuore Tennis Cup here Wednesday night and moved into a quarterfinal clash against another American, Sandy Mayer.

Mayotte, a 22-year-old unseeded player, lost his serve twice in the first three games, only scoring three points and looked at the mercy of the opponent. After losing his serve again in the fifth game of the second set, the American improved his play, returned the break in the 8th game and fought to a 6-6 tie. In the tiebreaker he went ahead 7-6 before surrendering 8-10 after one hour and 29 minutes of play.

Sandy Mayer, the elder of the Mayer tennis brothers, won an earlier match against fellow-American Hank Pfister 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 to gain a quarterfinal berth against Lendl.

American Chip Hooper and another Czechoslovak, Tomas Simid, also moved into the quarterfinals of the 32-player, one-week tournament at Milan's Indoor Sports Palace. Hooper, an unseeded, 24-year-old player of Sunnyvale, Calif., downed New Zealander Russell Simpson 7-5, 6-2 in one hour and 29 minutes. Hooper capitalized on a powerful and precise serve and on fine backhand passing shots.

Simpson looked tired out after the overnight first round struggle in which he upset fourth-seeded Vitas Gerulaitis. Simid, a teammate of Lendl on the Czech Davis Cup lineup, made short work of Shlomo Glickstein 6-2, 6-1.

Meanwhile, top seed Jimmy Arias, an 18-year-old American, was saved by darkness Wednesday in the \$75,000 Donnay Open Tennis Tournament when his second-round match against Frenchman Christophe Casse was postponed with Arias trailing 7-5, 5-7 and 4-2 in the final set.

The day went better for another American teenager. Unseeded Jimmy Brown, a 17-year-old from the U.S., knocked out No. 4 seed Pablo Arraya of Peru 7-6, 6-2, to qualify for the quarterfinals. Arraya was the fifth seeded player to fall in the tournament.

In the two other second-round encounters completed Wednesday, Mario Martinez of Bolivia finally pulled through an up-and-down contest against Frenchman Gilles Moretton with a 4-6, 7-6, 6-1 victory while Spain's Fernando Lluna ousted Swede's Magnus Tidemann, 7-6, 4-6, 6-1. Lluna now meets Brown in the quarterfinals and Martinez will play the winner of Arias-Casse, a match which resumes Thursday.

Arias, ranked 17th in the world, was surprised by the skill of Casse, a 25-year-old ranked 484 on the ATP computer.

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مكتبة الأهل

Dog Detective Ranjha

11 The case of the superstitious gardener

By Partap Sharma

This was not a very serious case. In fact, it turned out to be something of a joke and the only reason I recall it here is because it shows how gullible human beings can be.

The gardener concerned was known as Bhau Malli. He looked so typically the yokel — with his teeth spraying outward over his lower lip, his stammer, his over emphatic gestures and his little white cap set askant on the back of his head — that people usually refused to think that he was foolish as he looked.

Bhau Malli's garden flourished. He rarely watered the plants and when he did, it was always under the noonday sun. But flowers sprouted and birds chirruped about and bees made honeycombs in the trees. Bhau Malli lived like a happy jungle savage in that garden. He never even cut the grass but it never grew too long because wandering cattle and donkeys sauntered in and chewed it trim. The house and garden were enclosed by gates, of course. But Bhau Malli never shut the gates. Instead, he charged a fee of anyone whose cattle had fed in his grounds.

People marveled at his ability to prosper and to smile through all adversity — which he actually seemed to invite — while other gardeners were clutching their turbans and running about chucking stones at intruding monkeys and such. Bhau Malli gave bananas and nuts to the visiting hordes of monkeys, and sometimes he pretended he could discuss things with them. When you consider it carefully, perhaps it was not such a silly thing for him to do because otherwise he would just stand there in the garden and talk to himself.

Bhau Malli had a family. He had a wife and five children. Some of the children looked like him and some of them didn't. It is possible that one or two of them had just wandered in through the open gate and joined the brood. Anything was possible. For instance, various dogs slipped into the garden and within minutes became his. There was one lame creature who barked and snarled at nothing, somewhat like his master, and when he was carted away one day by a man who claimed him, the mangy dog limped back a year later from a village one hundred miles away.

If a bitch littered in some cosy corner of the sprawling garden, Bhau Malli sold the sweet little pups and with the money held a little feast and invited a local pundit to hold a prayer meeting in his hut. The mother of the pups would go sniffing after the pups and, within the week, they would come, toddling one by one behind her back into the garden. Sometimes he sold the same pups three times over.

There were days, too, when he would tuck a flower behind his ear and declare it a holiday and go to sleep under a tree. If some neighbor's hens disturbed him with their furious clucking, he would bestir himself to go and pick up the eggs they had laid. He always drank milk in the evenings, drawn straight from the udders of visiting cows. And he never bothered to lop the dead wood from trees in the garden. Instead, he sold parts of trees by the branch to local woodcutters.

The owner of the house suspected most of this but being a kind old lady who lived most of the time in Poona, she let Bhau Malli drift on in his ways as long as the garden was kept well. And it was. On the rare occasions when she had reason to pull him up, he would look up at the sky and mutter for not letting the rains fall. His manner seemed to imply that it was beyond his control.

Most people would have thought that this

was a clever ruse on the part of the gardener but the fact is he was quite sincere.

One day Bhau Malli came to Woof and asked for a contribution of ten rupees; he said he was raising money in order to engage the services of a pundit (a learned Brahmin) who would help him to recover some pots which had been stolen from his hut. Now Woof knew that Bhau Malli was a devout Hindu and given to practicing the occasional ritual. But he was shocked that he was so superstitious as to think that the mumbu-jumbo of a charlatan could help him get back his stolen pots and pans.

Woof said, "I don't mind contributing ten rupees toward the recovery of your stolen utensils but, in my opinion, you would be much better served if you depended on this dog to help you. I suggest you save your money — and, incidentally, mine — and forget about going to a pundit. Tell me how the pots came to be stolen and I'm sure Ranjha will help you."

Bhau Malli took Woof's chiding in good spirit; he laughed and grinned and nodded and seemed to agree but, in the end, he insisted on going to the charlatan.

"Very well," said Woof. "Let us see who catches the thief, Ranjha or the pundit?"

When Bhau returned from his visit to the pundit Woof asked what had transpired. Bhau said that the pundit was working on the case with his mystic vision but in the meantime he had admitted that it was all a bit foggy. Sooner or later, the mist over the matter was bound to clear.

"Good heavens!" Woof exclaimed.

"That's as vague as any man can be."

Bhau nodded and grimaced and sucked in his breath and with an emphatic gesture said, "Yes, very, very vague. B-b-b-but he's w-w-w-working on the c-c-case. He's told me not to w-w-worry."

"All right," Woof said. "Now let me put Ranjha into his tracking harness and let's go over to your hut."

The pots had been stolen three days before, on Republic Day, when the whole family had gone to the bazaar to join in the anniversary festivities and to watch the parade. Bhau's hut, like the gate to the garden, was never locked. The door had been left ajar. The thief had strolled in, seen that he was unobserved, and selected the best copper pots from the shelf and walked away. Bhau Malli was particularly upset that the pots had been his very special ones, the ones made of copper. The brass and stainless steel utensils had not been touched. The thief, it seemed, had the same values as Bhau Malli — he, too, had a preference for copper vessels. This in itself was a surprise to Woof for copper pots are not half as durable as those made of the popular alloys, but Bhau Malli explained that copper was considered a metal of magical properties and had a curative value and, therefore, it was quite understandable that the thief had made such a careful selection.

What's more, last year, too, a similar theft had taken place but then Bhau had not bothered much about it since only one copper mug had been stolen. He had, in fact, eventually come to believe that one of his five children had misplaced it somewhere in the vast reaches of the garden. Now, Bhau knew that he was the target of a thief, for this time six utensils had been taken.

Three days had now passed since the theft. Woof was a little doubtful that I would be able to untangle the scent of the thief from all those of the family and the various genuine visitors who had been there in the past few days. Bhau was of the opinion that one of his own relatives, in partic-

ular perhaps a young niece, had carried the pots away in a shopping bag. On that Republic Day, many of his relatives had come from the surrounding villages.

Woof groaned at the thought of tracking through the crowded bazaar and perhaps following a trail to some remote village.

But he needn't have worried. The trail led right across the road to the hotel opposite.

Yes, I caught the unfamiliar scent straightforward. Of course, the hut itself was full of numerous smells, some of them strange and obviously belonging to the relatives who had been there; but none of them had had reason to stand directly under the shelf from which the pots had been taken. There, under the shelf, I detected only one strange scent — that of the man who had reached up for the pots. It was Woof who deduced this and it was he who pointed me to the exact spot and set me on the track. After all my training and having solved so many cases, Woof and I had become quite a good working team. I understood what he wanted of me. And he was thrilled by my immediate response.

I set off slowly toward the main gate, with my nose to the ground. But at one point, the scent suddenly veered to the left. Following it, I came to the edge of the compound and a large rainwater pit that lay just beyond the straggling fence. The thief had been sensible; he had not carried the pots out of the compound for fear of being noticed — he had thrown his booty over the fence and collected it later. However, I didn't go sniffing off after the smell of the pots. The scent I had been given was that of the thief and I kept to it.

It turned back to toward the drive and went out of the main gate and, as I said,



Abdurahim Alireza

Illustrations by Abdurahim Alireza

them out to display so soon after acquiring them. They were probably hidden somewhere safe. Or perhaps they had been sold.

Woof asked the woman where her husband was. She said he had gone to the bazaar.

Woof now took me off the scent and turned to Bhau. He said, "So there you are. It's clear that the man who lives in this hut stole your pots. He might have sold them by now, of course, but I doubt it. He seems to like possessing copper pots. He's probably hidden them somewhere and, if we went on tracking, I'm sure we'd find them but I don't think it's necessary to take all that trouble. I suggest you see the sweeper later this evening and just tell him casually that we know who the thief is. Tell him that you are only interested in getting your pots back and, if they are returned to you, nothing more will be said of the matter; otherwise, of course, you will have no alternative but to expose the thief. I'm sure you'll get your pots back."

When Woof mentioned this to Bhau, he said, "But there are many sweepers employed by the hotel."

So I pressed on, till I reached the hut of this particular sweeper at the back of the main building. A woman and some children standing there moved aside at my approach. I led Woof and Bhau into the hut. There, lined neatly in row upon row on shelves, were many gleaming pots and pans. There were rows of crockery and glassware too. The man was obviously a specialist — specializing in the theft of kitchenware. But there was no sign of Bhau's goods. Again, the thief had been sensible. He had not put



across the road, through a side entrance into the vast grounds of a hotel. The man had gone to a broom and continued sweeping the dried leaves into little heaps all over the compound. I naturally moved from heap to heap. In a short while, Woof understood that the man I was tracking was a sweeper, an employee of the hotel.

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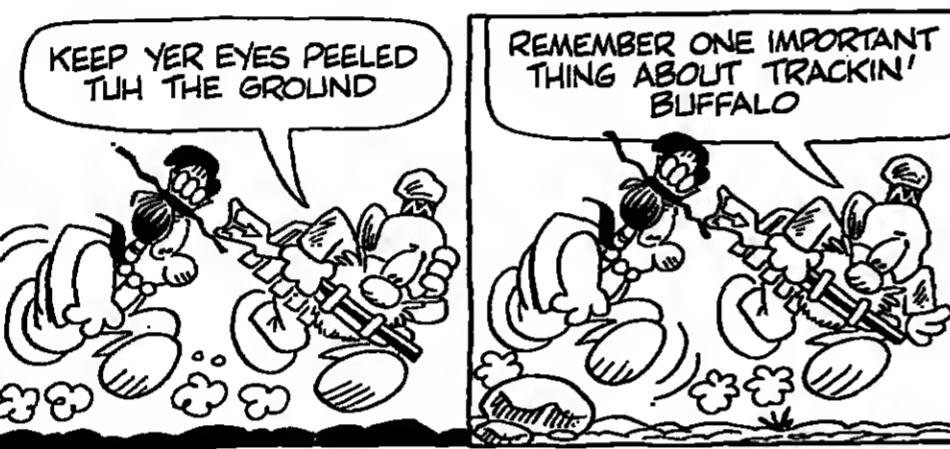
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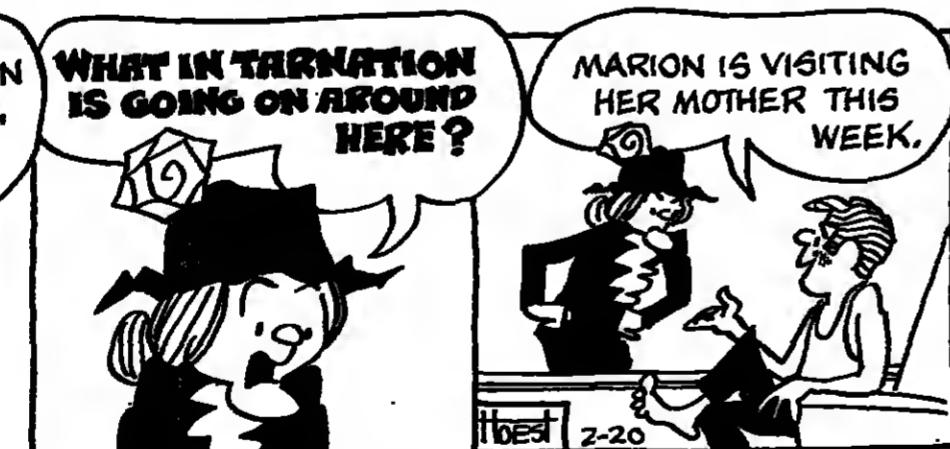
REDEYE



by Gordon Bess



AGATHA CRUMM



Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake

FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1983

ARIES

(Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)

Exercise initiative in romance. Your leadership qualities are to the fore. Hobbies, amusements and travel are favored now.

TAURUS

(Apr. 20 to May 20)

You'll tackle those unfinished tasks around the house. Take home work from the office to stay ahead of the competition.

GEMINI

(May 21 to June 20)

Morning hours find you in a mental slump, but later you'll dazzle others with your insight. Make important calls.

CANCER

(June 21 to July 22)

Action is needed now about a career endeavor. Your hunches are on the money. Creative types meet with chances to improve income.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22)

You may have been beating around the bush. Now's the time to speak forthrightly. Rest assured, others will listen.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

Stop hemming and hawing. Take one task at a time and you'll make progress. Get the privacy you need.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)

A small financial dilemma will be resolved in your favor. This is an excellent time for career strivings. Success is forthcoming.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

You'll gain the respect of a loved one if you exhibit greater confidence. Express those ideas that you've been keeping to yourself.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

You'll overcome a loved one's reservations about a planned outing. News from afar is welcome. Put self-improvement ideas into motion.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

A plan you have doubts about will work. It's up to you to keep trying. Domestic and financial matters are happily highlighted.

MARS

(Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)

Don't worry about the impression a loved one will make on some friends. Together, you'll all have a wonderful time.

JUPITER

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

No more excuses. A higher-up wants to see results. Once you begin, it will be smooth sailing. Aim for the top.

SATURN

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

Don't worry about the impression a loved one will make on some friends. Together, you'll all have a wonderful time.

URANUS

(Mar. 21 to April 19)

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NEPTUNE

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Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Maine city

5 Illimitable

distance

10 Reverberate

5 Dress style

11 American

city

13 Slough off

8 General

store

fixture

15 Thrice

9 Lovers

of beauty

16 Cereal plant

17 Greek letter

18 Soil

20 Purview

21 Understand

19 Salt

tree

22 Stone

paving

block

23 La-

Calif.

24 Conventions

25 Formerly

26 Restraints

27 I (Ger.)

28 Medit.

island

29 Born (Fr.)

30 United

31 Tease

34 Paradisiacal

35 Seed coating

37 "A Streetcar Named—"

38 Redecorate

39 Caution

40 Nail

DOWN

1 Defeat

VISUAL CHART
ENAM ROMERO
ALLY ERASED
LEV PAN CAD
TAPI SLIDE RUDE
SLIDE REMET
POOR LEVI
LONE IDEST
AKA LEO SOC
SORDID GIRL
HUMANIC LOTTA
TYLER ANIEN

Yesterday's Answer

22 Type	32 Opera girl
23 Yoked	33 Luminesce
24 Lady's	35 Basket-ball
25 slipper	tourney
26 Zodiac	(abbr.)
27 Watered	26 Jeanne
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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE — Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X E
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

Q V Q C

ABT BINEX

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TELEX: 67034 SABUT SJ
DAMMAM (WAREHOUSE)
TEL: (03) 857 2080,
JUBAIL
TEL: (03) 361 2121
RIYADH
TEL: (01) 478 6168/5323
TELEX: 203106 BNEXRD SJ
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Honduras fears war as U.N. debate begins

Fighting continues in Nicaragua

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, March 24 (AP) — Troops of the leftist government and rightist Nicaraguan exiles from Honduras engaged in heavy fighting north of Managua, and Honduras said it verged on war with its Central American neighbor.

The ruling Sandinista junta dispatched 300 militiamen Wednesday to the northern city of Matagalpa to reinforce soldiers locked in fierce clashes in the El Dorado, Chachagua and Palo Prieto Hills in Matagalpa province, military sources said. Heavy combat also persisted near the towns of Quilalí and Wiwilí in neighboring Nueva Segovia province, they said.

"We are on the brink of an international war, a war between Nicaragua and Honduras," Honduran Ambassador Enrique Ortega told the U.N. Security Council Wednesday night in New York as debate began on Nicaraguan charges that the United States was sponsoring the exiles' invasion.

Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega warned Monday that Honduran support of the insurgents could spark war between the two countries. But the Honduran government Wednesday repeated denials that it was allowing Nicaraguan rebels to operate from bases within its territory.

"Honduras is totally removed from and has

no responsibility for what may be happening in Nicaragua," said a government communiqué released in Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital. "In faithful fulfilment of the principle of non-intervention, there are no camps of anti-Sandinistas in our territory nor is any type of support provided to Nicaraguan insurgents."

American U.N. Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick told the Security Council that Nicaragua's fears of a U.S. invasion were a "myth," and that Nicaragua was "involved in a major effort to destabilize other governments," particularly those of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica.

Thibault of France dies Misfortunes dogged 'enfant terrible'

PARIS, March 24 (Agencies) — Prince Thibault d'Orléans, 35, the youngest son of the pretender to the French throne, the Count of Paris, died of a heart attack Tuesday night on a hunting trip in the Central African Republic (CAR), according to family sources. Initial reports reaching Paris Wednesday had said that he died in a hunting accident.

Prince Thibault was in his hunting camp in Bamingui, in the northwest of the country, when he died. He leaves his wife, Scottish-born Marion Gordon-Orr, and a five-year-old son, Robert. She left Paris Wednesday night for the CAR.

On Tuesday, Thibault drove with a guide the 450 kilometers from Bangui, the capital, to the Bamingui camp, and fainted several times during the trip. He died a few hours later from a heart attack. His body was flown to Bangui. The prince loved travel and drove through North and South America.

Thibault was known as the "enfant terrible" of his family because of a 1981 conviction for attempted burglary.

A court in the southeastern French city of Tarbes sentenced the prince to a suspended one-year prison sentence after he had spent 14 months in jail while awaiting trial. His imprisonment marked the first time a member of the inner French royal family had been jailed since the ill-fated Louis XVI. The monarchy in France ended 135 years ago.

Thibault was convicted of participating in a failed burglary attempt March 30, 1980, at the Tarbes home of a wealthy physician, Suzanne Courty, who had an extensive art collection.

Two men were arrested while climbing over a wall into the doctor's courtyard that night and later sentenced to three-year prison terms each. One of the men was a known criminal. The other man operated an art gallery in Paris with Prince Thibault. The gallery was barely making ends meet.

During the prince's trial, Dr. Courty told the court the prince knew of her art collection.

Marcos warns bases opponents

MANILA, March 24 (AFP) — President Ferdinand Marcos on Thursday warned his opponents not to "play politics with the internal and external security of the nation" over the controversial issue of nuclear weapons allegedly installed in United States military bases in the Philippines.

In an official statement, Marcos said that the firm principle that no nuclear weapons would be installed by the United States in its Philippine bases without consulting the host nation had been affirmed.

Marcos was reacting to opposition charges that nuclear warheads had been installed at the Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, two

and had been in her home 18 months before the attempted robbery in an effort to convince her to purchase pre-Colombian art from his gallery.

The prosecution contended the prince was the "third man" in the case and its mastermind. They also alleged the prince was behind the wheel of an automobile waiting outside Dr. Courty's home on the night of the aborted burglary. The car roared off before police, tipped off by an alarm system, reached the doctor's home. The prince was arrested a month later.

The conviction came during a string of misfortunes for the handsome Prince Thibault, one of 11 children of the Comte de Paris who is the pretender to the French throne and whose royal lines date back 1,000 years through King Louis Philippe and King Louis XIV.

Thibault was once considered a darling of "tout Paris," the name for the city's wealthy jet set crowd, and was known for his dashing manners and exotic trips abroad.

But then came marriage to a commoner, the displeasure of his father, the death of his infant son, his unsuccessful art gallery and the failed break-in that led to his conviction.

During the prince's trial, his friends testified Thibault's 1973 marriage to the beautiful dark-haired Marion Gordon had displeased the Comte de Paris, who had wanted his son to marry royalty.

The friends said the issue of his marriage came up again only three months before the attempted burglary when Thibault went to bury his infant son in the family crypt.

Paul de la Panouse, a close friend of the prince, testified he was with Thibault when he telephoned his father to tell him the news of the infant's death and to make funeral arrangements.

"The come told him, 'your children are not royalty. There's no room in the crypt for him,'" Panouse told the court. "Thibault then said, 'but papa, there's room. You can put him in my tomb. We can huddle together when I die.'"

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Marcos warns bases opponents

major military installations within 90 kilometers of here.

To opposition leader and ABC chairman Lorenzo Tanada, a respected former senator, told Agence France-Presse that nuclear weapons have been installed in Clark and Subic and "there is nothing the Philippine government can do about it."

ABC is planning protests timed with the start next month of the review of the Philippines-U.S. bases treaty, during which increased military and economic aid to the Marcos government — known here as "rent" for the bases — from 1984-88 is to be determined.

London boy freed in mail bomb case

because of his age.

His lawyer, David James, told reporters: "This young boy will be contesting the case and I request that the press and public recognize the principle of his innocence until he is proved guilty."

He was charged with constructing an explosive device likely to endanger life and sending it through the mail to Mrs. Thatcher's official 10 Downing St. residence March 17. The device was intercepted at a central postal sorting office and safely defused.

From page one

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Another picture showed Soviet-built MiG-23 aircraft at a field in western Cuba. A picture of an airfield in Nicaragua purported to show Soviet anti-aircraft guns and helicopters.

A fourth picture showed a 10,000-foot (3,050 meter) aircraft runway on Grenada, along with fuel storage facilities and housing for Cuban workers. Reagan said the pictures demonstrate the Soviets "are spreading their military influence in ways that can directly challenge our vital interests and those of our allies."

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